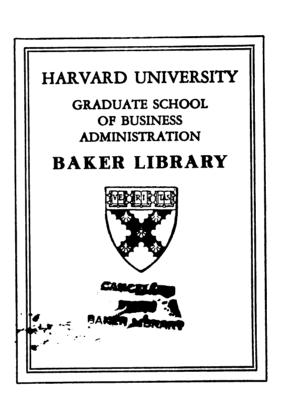
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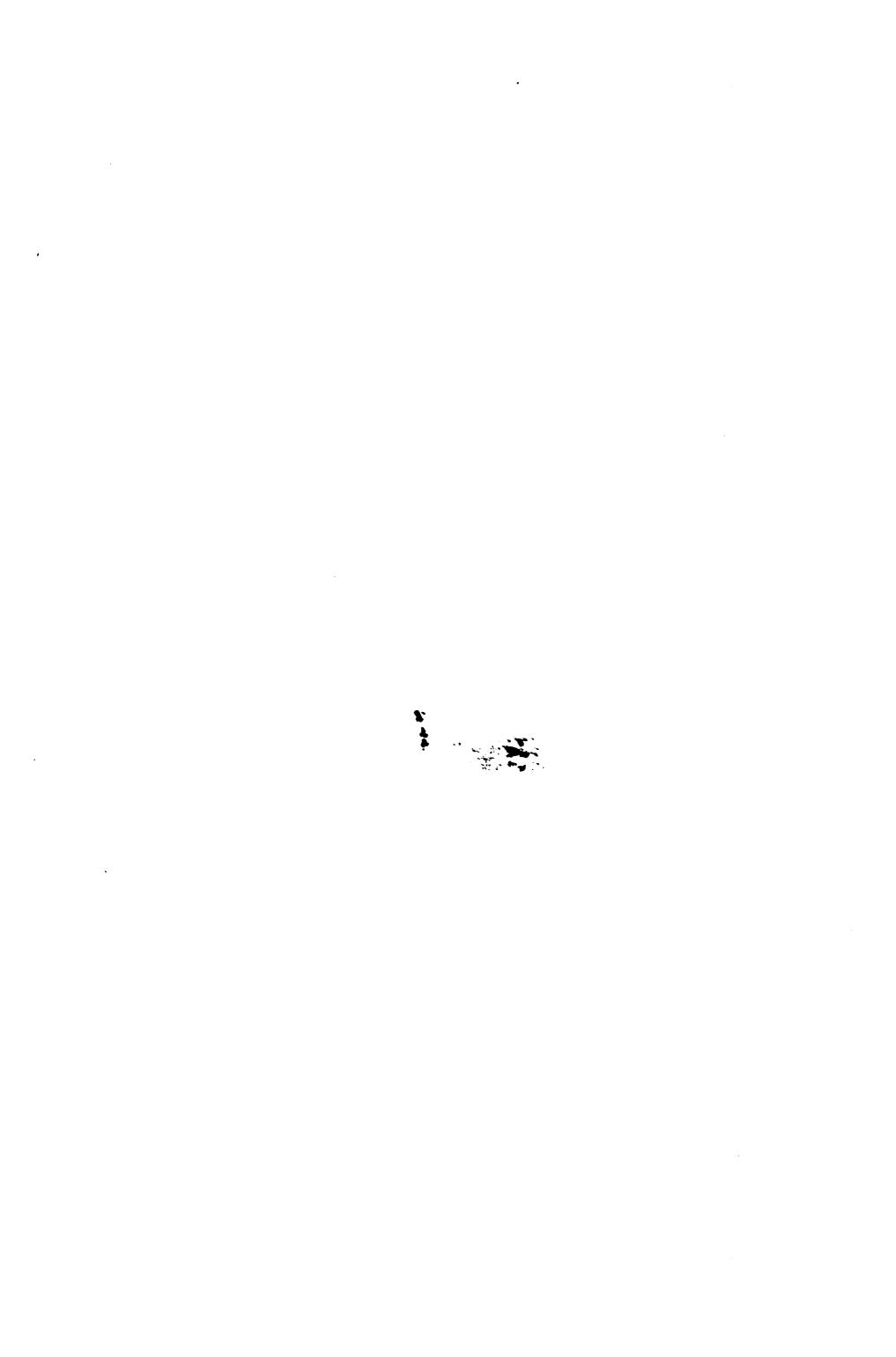


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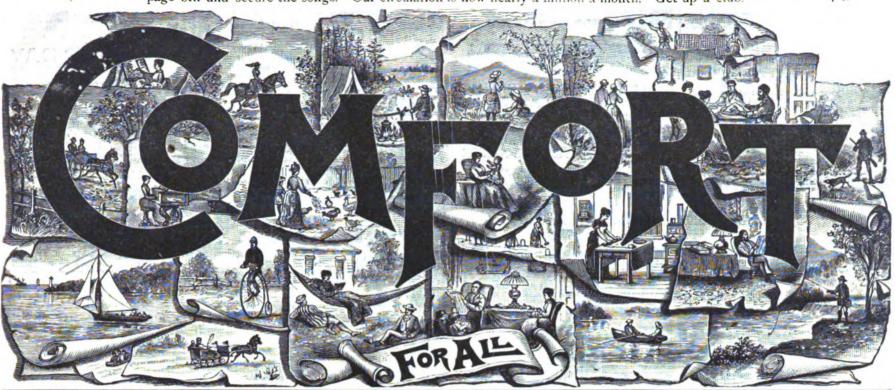
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Volume 4.

No. I.

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M. N. 37.

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November, 1891

By Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine.



"Ernestine did not accompany you?"
"No. She preferred to remain at home."
"Mother, I have not long to live, and I hope you will forgive me for disobeying you."
"Of course I forgive you. But I want you to remember that you became an outcast from home on account of your own obstinacy. You would marry Edwin Tremont."
"Mother, this delicate girl is my only child, and you can understand how hard it is for me to leave her to the mercies of the cold world."
"How old is she?"
"She will be seventeen in a few weeks."
"I suppose you want me to give her a home."
"That is my desire, mother. I can die in peace, if I know that she is not to be homeless."
"I will take her to Lyndon House," said the old lady, coldly.
A sad, weary look came across the sick woman's face. In a faint voice she said:
"Olive, I would like a glass of water."
The girl left the room, and immediately Mrs. Tremont looked imploringly at her mother, and said:
"Oh, mother, promise me that you will be kind to Olive. She is so sensitive so delicate."
"Why, Agatha, of course I shall be kind to her, and she will enjoy all the comforts that money can procure."
"Poor girl! her life has indeed been a hard one, so far. Her father died six years ago, and since then we have been very poor. As long as I had my health, we managed to live comfortably, but for more than a year we have often suffered the pangs of hunger. And when I knew that I had but a short time to live I wrote to you, feeling that you would not refuse to care for my darling child." As Mrs. Tremont finished speaking, Olive returned with the water, and a silence followed.
"This is a wretched place," said Mrs. Lyndon at length. looking around the apartment.
"Indeed, mother, I think it is quite comfortable."
Mrs. Lyndon smiled grimly
"You call it comfortable, but it is not much

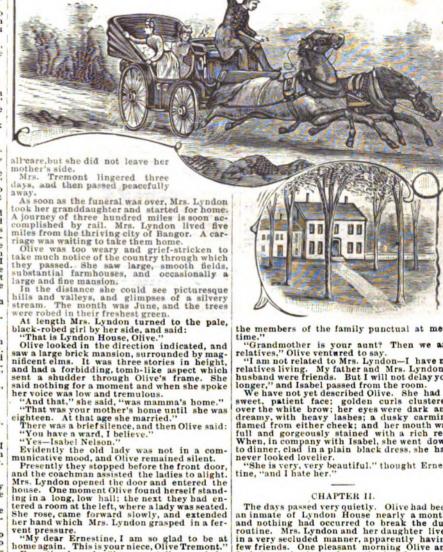
at length. looking around the apartment.

"Indeed, mother, I think it is quite comfortable."

Mrs. Lyndon smiled grimly
"You call it comfortable, but it is not much like Lyndon House, which you left voluntarily. I have often felt thankful that your father did not live to witness your disobedience. An undutiful child is a curse instead of a blessing."
Mrs. Tremont was silent.
"Do you stay here alone with your mother?" asked Mrs. Lyndon, addressing Olive.
"Yes, grandmother," said the girl timidly.
"I will send a woman to-morrow."
"Yes, grandmother," said the girl timidly.
"I will send a woman to-morrow."
"You are very kind, mother," murmured Mrs.
Tremont.
Mrs. Lyndon smiled again.
"I will leave you now, Agatha," she said. "I do not wish to weary you. I stop at the Union Hotel, and will come again in the morning. Good night."
"Good night, mother."
Mrs. Lyndon left the room with a slow, stately step, without once looking back towards the patient sufferer.
"Oh, mamma," sobbed Olive, as soon as the old lady was out of hearing, "she does not appear like anybody I eyer saw."
"You must try to love her, dear child, no doubt she will be kind to you; and there is no one else who would be likely to befriend you-your father's sister has always ignored our existence."
"Oh, mamma, how can I part with you?"
"Hush, my dear! I am going where the weary

"Oh, mamma, how can I part with you?"
"Hush, my dear! I am going where the weary

olive felt as though her heart was breaking. She bowed her head and remained silent, for she knew that to give her emotion vent would agitate her mother and greatly increase her illness."



her hand which Mrs. Lyndon grasped in a fervent pressure.

"My dear Ernestine, I am so glad to be at home again. This is your niece, Olive Tremont." Ernestine bowed. She was a tall, spare lady, with a dark face. There was a world of determination about her thin lips.

A quick, light step sounded in the hall, the door opened, and a slight, girlish figure appeared on the threshold.

"Come in, Isabel," said Mrs. Lyndon. "This is my granddaughter, Miss Tremont—my ward, Miss Nelson, Olive."

Isabel murmured a few words of greeting.

her aunt conducted her, she sank list-lessly into a chair, and

the members of the family punctual at meal

the members of the family punctual at mean time."

"Grandmother is your aunt? Then we are relatives," Olive ventured to say.

"I am not related to Mrs. Lyndon—I have no relatives living. My father and Mrs. Lyndon's husband were friends. But I will not delay you longer," and Isabel passed from the room.

We have not yet described Olive. She had a sweet, patient face; golden curls clustered over the white brow; her eyes were dark and dreamy, with heavy lashes; a dusky carmine flamed from either cheek; and her mouth was full and gorgeously stained with a rich red. When, in company with Isabel, she went down to dinner, clad in a plain black dress, she had never looked lovelier.

"She is very, very beautiful." thought Ernestine, "and I hate her."

CHAPTER II.

CHAPTER II.

The days passed very quietly. Olive had been an inmate of Lyndon House nearly a month, and nothing had occurred to break the dull routine. Mrs. Lyndon and her daughter lived in a very secluded manner, apparently having few friends. One pleasant morning Olive and Isabel were in the garden gathering flowers for the vases, when the sound of footsteps caused them to turn quickly. A tall young man, with a bronzed face and a heavy black mustache stood before them. Isabel's composure completely deserted her for a moment; then she extended her hand and said:

"How do you do, Mr. Leighton?"
"I am very well, thank you," he returned.
"This is Miss Tremont," faltered Isabel.
The gentleman bowed gravely, but Olive saw the look of admiration in his dark eyes, and her cheeks glowed strangely.
Isabel informed Mr. Leighton that Mrs. Lyndon and Ernestine were both at home, and he went slowly up the graveled walk. As soon as he had entered the house, Isabel turned to Olive and said:
"Do you know who that man is?"
"Yes," said Olive quietly; "it is Mr. Leighton."
Isabel smiled.

"Do you know who that man is?"

"Yes," said Olive quietly; "it is Mr. Leighton."

Isabel smiled.

"Isabel smiled.

"And Mr. Leighton is Ernestine's lover," she observed.

"Indeed!"

"How provoking you are, Olive. Come, now, confess that you feel interested in him. Of course you can't deny that he is handsome. Ernestine has been angling after him for years, but I don't believe he cares anything about her."

"Isabel smiled.

"How provoking you are, Olive. Come, now, confess that you feel interested in him. Of course you can't deny that he is handsome. Ernestine has been angling after him for years, but I don't believe he cares anything about her."

"But you said that he was her-lover."

"Mrs. Lyndon think so, and I have no doubt that Ernestine tries to think so. He was left an orphan when quite young, and was adopted by Harvey Mordaunt, Mrs. Lyndon's half brother. Mr. Mordsunt died four years ago, leaving all his wealth to his adopted son. The fine old estate of Beechwood is his. But perhaps auntie has told you all this?"

"In ever heard of it before."

"Ernestine has been angling after him for years, but I don't believe he cares anything about her."

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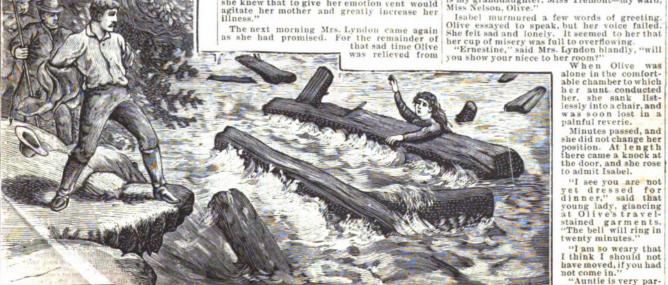
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"But you said that he was her-lover."

"Mrs. Lyndon's half brother. Mr. Mordsunt died four years ago, le



oving the one. He called here a weekage, when you not I had gone for a walk. And now, my dear Olive very pretty romance is shaping itself in my mind ir. Leighton will fall in love with you and—"
"Oh, Isabel, hush!"

"Indeed, I'm quite sure he will," persisted Isabel.
"He is a man of sense, and you are beautiful and a
perfect lady—"
"Isabel, I am surprised! I will not listen to you."
"Then I will remain silent, although I love dearly
to talk."

to talk."
Olive turned away her head and burst into tears.
"Have I offended you, Olive?" cried isabel in a distressed tone. "Porgive me—I am very sorry."
"I am not offended," said Olive, wher she could control her voice to speak; "but I have been so homesick since I have been here and—and—"
"And my light words pained you," said Isabel, gently. "I am very sorry."

CHAPTER III.

During the weeks that followed Harold Leighton was frequently a guest at the Lyndon mansion, and Olive was exced to find that she looked forward with pleasure to his coming. And yet he seldom addressed a remark to her and at times seemed almost oblivious of her presence.

One morning Olive was crossing the hall when the drawing-foom door opened, and Ernestine came forward, and said:

"Olive, you may go over to Mrs. Marsden's for me

rward, and said:
"Olive, you may go over to Mrs. Marsden's for me
its morning. I presume you will enjoy the walk,
ue has some patterns for me, and there are none of
servants with sufficient intelligence to remember
rinstructions. You will be kind enough to hurry
tek."

Olive bowed, and went up stairs after her hat and

Olive bowed, and went up stairs after her hat and shawl.

"Do you think it is safe for her to go?" asked Mrs. Lyndon, who hearing her daughter's command, came out into the hall just as Olive disappeared up the stairs. "She must cross the bridge, and you know that the late heavy rains have swollen the stream into a torrent, and that there were rumors a half hour ago that the upper dam had gone."

Ernestine looked sublimely indifferent.

"There is no danger," she said, loftily.

"Perhapa not," returned Mrs. Lyndon.

Olive left the house, and agitated by a storm of contending passions, hurried onward and was half way across the frail bridge that spanned the swollen stream before her preoccupied senses took note of the signs of her great danger.

Only a few inches below the boards, roared the water, whirling along with a velocity that turned her sick and faint, and forced her to cling to the rotten railing for support. She essayed to return, but her trembling limbs gave way under her, and the whole scene swam before her eyes.

"Miss Tremont—Olive, come back for Heaven's sake!" cried a hoarse voice.

Olive raised her eyes, and saw Harold Leighton standing upon the bank. It was impossible for her to move; invisible chains seemed to bind her to the spot.

A loud cry rose from the men who were assembling

A loud cry rose from the men who were assembling to witness the progress of the freshet. Olive turned hastly and saw, where a few moments before the stream had tumbled impetuously over the dam, just above the bridge, a wall of water, green, foam-flecked.

above the bridge, a wall of water, green, foam-flecked.

She stretched out her arms towards Harold; it was just above her head.

"Oh, help me! I—"

It was on her, and the bridge and the frightened girl upon it were swept away.

A deep groan went up from the crowd, answered by a cry from Harold, as hastily tearing off his outer garments he threw himself headlong into the boiling maelstrom. A hush followed broken at length by the voice of a man in the crowd.

"He's a brave fellow. My! that was a narrow shave," as a huge log just grazed Harold. "She's gone! No! thereshe is. I can see her face. Hurrah! he's got her—hurrah!" And the pent-up feelings of the crowd found vent in a loud shout, as Harold carefully deposited his precious burden on the bank.

The women gathered around the form of the beautiful young girl, and presently one of them turned to Harold and said:

"She's alive, sir! She's coming to."

"Thank God!" etampleted Harold and said:

farold and said:
"She's alive, sir! She's coming to."
"Thank God!" ejaculated Harold, reverently.
"You are injured, Mr. Leighton," said one of the

men.
"It is nothing—a mere scratch," returned Harold, holding his handkerchief to a wound near his temple. At that moment a kind-hearted farmer drove up, and leaning from his old-fashioned buggy, inquired what had happened.

A few words explained all.
"I'll take the young lady home," said the newcomer. "Just lift her into my carriage—as gently as possible. That's well We'll soon reach Lyndon House."

The carriage started, and Harold turned away in the direction of his own home.

The carriage started, and Harold turned away in the direction of his own home.

The next day Harold came to Lyndon House, and a servant ushered him into the drawing-room, where Ernestine and Olive were seated. The customary greetings over, Olive said:

"You saved my life yesterday, Mr. Leighton. How can I thank you?"

"Thanks are not necessary," said Harold, gravely.

"Olive," interposed Ernestine, sweetly, "I think Isabel is, waiting to give you your music lesson."

Olive rose, and was about to speak, but Ernestine turned to Harold, and said quickly:

"Isabel plays very well, as you know, and she offered to give Olive lessons, so of course mamma consented. Beauty and talent seldom go together, and I'm afraid my niece is a very dull scholar."

The last sentence was spoken in a low tone, but the words reached Olive's ears, as Ernestine had intended that they should. Tears sprang to the poor girl's eyes, and she left the room without speaking.

"I didn't intend for Olive to hear me," continued Ernestine. "She's offended now, I suppsse. She is a great trial. Harold, a great trial."

The young man made no reply, and Ernestine realized that she had made a mistake.

After Harold had gone Ernestine walked rapidly up and down the long apartment, her eyes glowing strangely.

"I'm afraid he's learning to care for elive," she

up and down the long apartment, her eyes glowing strangely.

"I'm afraid he's learning to care for Olive," she muttered; "but he shall never marry her—never."

A week later Harold went to Mrs. Lyndon and requested permission to win her granddaughter's hand and heart.

The old lady could hardly believe that she had heard aright, but she controlled her emotions, and smiled graciously upon the young man. It had been the desire of her heart for Ernestine to be his wife, but as he was in love with Olive, and she knew him we'll enough to understand that his love was a part of his 'ife, she would not withold her approbation.

A few days later Olive wore an engagement ring, and a new joy had brightened her life.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.]

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The weather is really getting a little frosty, sister Bees, and reminds us of what is coming. We have early winters here in Maine, you know. But I have put a little fire in the grate (just bring in another armful of wood, if you please, brother Drone) and we will draw our chairs up around the blaze and be as cozy and cheerful as possible. Close the door tightly, Queen Bee, our Southern friends are not used to this bracing air; but be sure to leave the latch-string out for the late comers.

"Jack Frost met me just as I was coming out of my door," says Maggie May, "and gave my nose such a tweak that I thought Winter had come surely. So I stepped back for an extra shawl, and happened to think of my Combination pattern; just what you will need when the cold weather comes, sisters, and these long fall evenings give you lots of spare time to be knitting on them. It isn't so very much work, now try it! and you will get rid of one band around your waist.

DRAWEES AND VEST COMBINED.

Material required for one garment—vest and

now try it! and you will get rid of one band around your waist.

DRAWERS AND VEST COMBINED.

Material required for one garment—vest and drawers:—Five double skeins Scotch wool, at a cost of about 33 cents per skein; two sets bone or rubber knitting-needles, one set (two needles) about a medium size, the other set a little larger; also four medium-size steel needles, for ankles and bands.

The following directions are for a person of medium size, from 30 to 34 inches bust measure, and can be changed for other sizes at rate of four stitches on each needle to an inch:

BACK.—Cast on 80 stitches on the smaller size bone or rubber needles, slip 1, knit 1, seam or purl 2, k 2, continue in same way to end of needle, turn and proceed as before, taking care that the seams correspond, thus making the work come in even ridges. After knitting 6 inches in this way change needles for the larger ones and proceed in same manner until this piece is about 18 inches long, or after being stretched crosswise to fit the back, will reach to the neck; bind off rather loosely so that the top may may stretch. full width of the shoulders.

FRONT.—Cast on 80 stitches on large needles, slip 1, k 1, nurl 2 k 2 can be a supported the same proceed.

stretched crosswise to fit the back, will reach to the neck; bind off rather loosely so that the top may may stretch. full width of the shoulders.

Front.—Cast on 80 stitches on large needles, slip 1, k 1, purl 2, k 2, as on back, until about 8 inches have been knit; then change to smaller needles, those first used on the back, knit the same length on them as on back and change to larger needles in same manner, except that you should divide the stitches and knit one-half at a time in order to leave an opening large enough to get the garment on; to do this, slip 40 stitches off on a cord and tie cord so that stitches shall not ravel. Knit the remaining 40 stitches off on a cord and tie cord so that for a length of about 4 inches, or until the piece will reach to the arm pit; then on the outside edge of front, knit last two stitches have been lost, this fits the front round the arm. Continue with this number of stitches, 22, for about 6 inches, or until the piece will reach over the shoulder; bind off loosely. Take up the remaining 40 stitches and proceed as with last 40. Take the back, and where you begun with the 80 stitches on small needles, take up half of them, or 40 stitches, on large needles; cast on, or make 10 stitches, on large needles.) Sew this side of the back and front together over and over, taking care that the different points knit on the large and small needles come together horizontally; for this part knit on smaller needles; make the rest fit round the waist; and that on the larger ones gives the fullness at the bust and hips. Take up 40 stitches of front on the same needle, and proceed for the leg of the drawers. This makes 90 stitches on each end of needle, but do not narrow oftener than every third time round unless the leg is very small. From just above the knee begin to narrow by knitting together last 2 stitches on each end of needle, but do not narrow oftener than every third time round unless the leg is very small. From just above the knee to the largest part of the calf, do not narrow

of the front of vest; this brings the seam on inside.

Take up other half of back and proceed as on the first leg; when done fasten the extra 10 stitches on each half of back onto the back, overlapping each other. Back and front should be sewed together to where the front is narrowed to fit the arm; sew the ends of front on top of back, keeping the seams straight. This leaves 16 stitches in the back to fit the neck. This front opening is large, to admit of pulling whole garment on and off easily, though, if one prefers, the vest may be left open whole length of front by knitting front in two pieces. I prefer the front whole across the lower part of the body.

SLEEVES.—Cast 50 stitches on large needles:

SLEEVES.—Cast 50 stitches on large needles, narrow each time across until 40 stitches are left; after 5 inches are kint use the three steel needles and proceed as with the ankles to the required length. If the sleeve is desired to come to the wrist it should be narrowed above the elbow and occasionally below until 24 stitches are left; then use steel needles, sew sides together and sew into arm's eye making seam join seam under the arm, this brings the gore under the arm. Narrowing should be done according to proportions of the person. (I give my own.) A shell of silk crocheted round the sleeves and neck makes a pretty finish.

In washing these vests do not rub on a board, t soak in very soapy warm water for about 1st an hour, then souse in the water and the 1rt comes out readily; however, if after first tashing any dirt remains, soak again in clean thapy water, rinse through two waters and the water through two waters and they wrung stretch lengthwise before drying.

Soap bark is full better than soap, and can be

procured at any druggist's for a small sum.

I have worn two of these garments in change, for four winters, and with some repairing they will last two more, and I consider them very cheap garments.

cheap garments.

Now this is practical, I am sure. You need not look so disdainful, girls; you would be glad enough to have one of these nice warm garments, if your mother or some good maiden aunt would knit it for you. But we will let you have your turn presently.

Mrs. Golder, did you say that you had brought some pretty things? After coming so far, from away off in Oregon, you certainly ought to be heard.

"Yes, I have something for both crochet and

"Yes, I have something for both crochet and knitting needles, and hope all will be pleased. First will you try with me a pretty crochet edging about 1:2 inches wide?

CROCHET EDGING.

Make a chain of 13 sts.

1st row.—Turn, pass over 3 sts, 1 tr into each of the 4 next sts, 2 ch, pass 1 st, 1 tr into each of 4 next sts, 3 ch, turn.

2nd row.—1 tr, 1 ch into each of 4 trs, 2 ch, 4 trs under 2 ch of last row. This row is repeated until you have worked the length required.

For the edge.—1st row.—1 dc into a point, 5 ch, repeat.

repeat.
2nd row.—1 tr into a st, 2 ch, pass over 2 sts and repeat.
3rd row.—1 dc into the top of a tr, 2 ch, 2 trs separated by 4 ch, repeat from the beginning of the row.
For the heading on the other side of center work 2 rows like 1st 2 rows of edging.

And for the knitters, here is a very simple

And for the knitters, here is a very simple pattern for

INFANT'S KNITTED BOOT.

Materials required:—1 oz of 3 thread wool, 2 knitting needles, No, 16, and 1-2 yard satin ribbon.

Materials required:—1 oz of 3 thread wool, 2 knitting needles, No, 16, and 1-2 yard satin ribbon.

This is a very pretty, simple and quickly made little boot. Commence at the bottom of sole, cast on 144 sts, work in patent knitting as follows:

For 11-4 inches make one by putting the wool over the pin, slip 1, k 2 together, repeat from beginning of row. When you have worked the 11-4 inches, commence the decrease.

Ist row.—*Make 1, slip 1, k 2 together, repeat from *3 times, make 1, slip 1, k 2 together, pass the slip st over the 2 k tog, k 3 tog, continue in patent knitting to the end of row. Repeat this row until you have worked 3 inches, measuring from the bottom of boot.

Now for the ankle. Work in ribbed knitting, k 1, p 2 tog, repeat from beginning of row, k 1, p 1 for 2 inches more.

Now for the top of leg. To increase number of sts sufficiently, make 1, k 1 throughout, then work in patent knitting 1 1-2 inches, and cast off. Fold the shoe down the middle of back, sew it very neatly with a needle and wool up the front from the top of ribbed knitting; draw the knitting up from the toe a little, and sew it, sew up the sole, gradually sloping a little towards the heel; the work must be gathered in a little at the heel to shape it nicely. After sewing turn the boot.

For the edge of revers: Crochet 1 dc into a st of knitting, pass over 1 st and repeat. A bow of ribbon is sewn to the top of front of ankle, and the top of leg is turned over.

I hoped that we might have ever so many bright ideas/for Christmas presents this month. Has no one brought any? We want to begin early on our work, you know, for time flies so fast.

"For those who paint," says H. Woodward, "I can tell them of a lovely scarf. It is of pale

gearly on our work, you know, for time flies so fast.

"For those who paint," says H. Woodward, "I can tell them of a lovely scarf. It is of pale green silk with a strip of bolting cloth on one tend, on which are painted wild roses and leaves. On this end sew pink silk tassels, and on the other, long silk fringe the exact shade of the scarf."

"May I interrupt a minute?" exclaims an Ohio sister. "These scarfs may also be embroidered with arrasene, and are very effective. I saw an exquisite one of pale-green china silk and pink bolting cloth. On the silk was a conventional pattern in pink arrasene, and pink balls and rings finished the end. The bolting cloth end had a similar design and finish in green, and the result was very beautiful."

"A dozen linen doylies may be prettily made," continues Sister W., "by drawing on each a design of a single grape leaf; lay a natural leaf on the linen and mark around it, Work the edge of leaf in skeleton stitch, the veins in etching stitch, with white or light green washing silk."

The Badger State sends two representatives. "Just a little hint." save Mrs. Lewis Harnisch.

The Badger State sends two representatives. "Just a little hint," says Mrs. Lewis Harnisch. "When Sister W. spoke about the doylies, I was reminded of one I have at home to lay over my bread. It is made of fine damask, fringed all around, and across the centre is an appropriate motto in colored silk, Come eat of my bread." "Girls. just try my

motto in colored silk, Come eat of my bread."

"Girls, just try my

TWINE HOLDER,"
remarks Conradena Rosenow, the other
"Badger" Bee. "Saw a cocoanut in two, and
scrape out half the shell clean. When dry,
bronze or gild both outside and inside. Bore a
small hole through the end for the twine. Bind
the top with a bias piece of plush, finish with
ribbons to hang by, and a tiny pair of scissors.
Another pretty thing is a

to cut patterns in paper to take to the glazier, who cuts them from common, white glass. A pretty size for a jewel-case is a triangle measuring five-and-a-half inches on each side (top and bottom are alike). The three pieces for the sides are five-and-a-half inches long, and two inches deep. Bind the edges with ribbon, holding it very tight and sewing it only at the corners, which must be turned very neatly, or the good effect is marred.

The width of the ribbon, depends, of course, on the size of the box. For one of the size named, an inch-wide ribbon will do. When all the pieces are bound, fasten them together with a few stitches at the corners, leaving the lid open at one point. Put bows on each corner and cover a thin piece of scented wadding with satin for an inside cushion, laying it in without sewing it to the box.

The young folks will want to make something

it in without sewing it to the box.

The young folks will want to make something for their friends who wear glasses, and they will like the little

SPECTACLE WIPERS.

Cut two oval pieces of chamois of convenient size, draw on one a pair of spectacles, and on the other the words,

The world will never look quite right,
Unless you keep your glasses bright.

Bind the pieces with narrow ribbon, and fasten together with a bow.

Queen Bee, can't you tell the girls how you

Queen Bee, can't you tell the girls how you made that lovely necktie for Cousin Drone? I know they'll all want to make one this year for their own special John or Harry.

"Yes indeed, it was very simple, like this: GENTLEMAN'S NECKTIE.

Take one ounce of knitting silk, No. 300, of any color preferred, and a medium-sized steel hook.

Take one ounce of knitting silk, No. 300, of any color preferred, and a medium-sized steel hook.

Make a chain of 32 stitches.

Ist row.—Miss 3, 5 tr in 4th loop, miss 3 sts, *1 dc in next st, 2 ch, 5 tr in same st that the dc is in, miss 3 sts, repeat from *to end of row, ending the row with 1 dc in last st of ch, turn.

2nd row.—2 ch, 5 trs in the dc at end of previous row, 1 dc under 2 ch of first 2 ch of first shell, (a) 2 ch, 5 trs under same 2 ch that the dc just made is under, 1 dc under next 2 ch of 2nd shell of 5 trebles, repeat from (a), end the row with 1 dc in 4th tr of last shell.

Repeat this 2nd row until the work is 7 inches in length, then decrease 1 row by omitting 1 shell at the beginning and end of the row, and make 2 rows on 5 shells only, then decrease 1 row by omitting 1 shell at each end as before, when there should be 3 shells in the row; work on these 3 shells until you have a strip 12 inches long, counting the 1st made row of 3 shells, then increase 1 row by making 1 shell at each side of row, and work 2 rows without increasing, then increase 1 row by making a shell in beginning and ending the row, as before; then work a strip 15 inches in length without increase or decrease.

Well, we have had a long session, and a profitable one. I think. Good-bye, fellow-work-

Well, we have had a long session, and a profitable one, I think. Good-bye, fellow-work-ers! a safe journey to you. Busy Bee, (Care of Comfort Pub. Co.)

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threw a great quantity of Music Books on the market; we were lucky enough way down here in Maine to secure the lot at almost nothing, and for this week will send one collection only to a person on receipt of six cents. When you consider that you are to receive over twelve dozen songs with music for a mere song, you will probably make haste to answer, as they wont last long, and you will probably find some piece in the lot that you have hunted high and low for, and would not sell for \$1.00, and, yes, "Comrades" is in it, also 144 other popular songs.

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DEAR COUSING

Dear Cousins:

I know it is a little late for pickling and preserving now, but some very nice receipts have been sent in, and I think we had better have them at this time, than save them for another year; don't you?

Mrs. Spencer of Orono, Maine, has sent directions for making various kinds of pickles and preserves, and as the Yankee women are famous for concocting such dainties, we will listen to her first.

One peck tomatoes, steamed, peeled and quartered. Add 4 lbs. sugar, 1-2 ounce lemon. and cook 3 hours.

(I suppose you mean lemon juice and rind, Hrs. Spencer? A little ginger-root and mace gives this preserve a delicious taste, like some loreign confection.)

One peck green tomatoes, 5 onions chopped fine, 2 quarts vinegar, 1 cup sugar, 1 spoonful white mustard, 1 spoonful salt, 3 bell peppers, 1 spoonful cloves. Boil 15 minutes.

One-half bushel cucumbers; peel, quarter, sught the seeds off and let stand in salt over night. Drain, and cook in a little salt-and-water (enough to cover) until you can pierce them easily with a fork. Take I pint vinegar, I teaspoon cloves and allspice. I pint sugar, let boil and turn over the cucumbers.

Take as many apples as you like; quarter them, and cook in enough water to cover; strain through a jelly bag. Cook the juice a strain through a jelly bag. Cook the juice a shours, then strain again. Measure the juice, and add a pint of sugar to each pint of juice; boil 20 minutes, and turn into tumblers.

Perhaps the frost has not killed all the homatoes "down South," and some one can try this Catsup receipt, which I think must be a good one.

Select good ripe tomatoes, scald and strain through a coarse sieve to remove seeds and skin, then add to each gallon when cold, 3 table-spoons of salt, 2 of ground mustard, 1 table-spoon black pepper, 1 tablespoon ground all-spice, 1-2 tablespoon cloves, 1 pint cider; simmer slowly 4 hours, bottle and cork tight.

surprise Cake
One egg, I cup of sugar, I cup milk or water, 2
sups of flour, I large tablespoon of butter, 2
spoons baking powder, I spoon of flavoring,
MEDA.

We can try the cake anyway, Cousin Meda, it the catsup does come a little late. You see I have to make up copy a month in advance of publication.

Will you accept a receipt from a Lone Star State cousin? It is a very good cake: I have bried it many times. I call it

because a little boyby the name of Willie likes it so well.

Two eggs, 11-2 cups of sugar, small cup of currants, 1 cup of sour cream, a spoonful of coda, 1-2 spoonful of cloves, 1-2 spoonful of cinamon and sufficient flour to make quite stiff. Bake in a moderate oven. And may I say something about

Bake in a moderate oven. And may I say something about

PRICKLY PEARS?

So few people know what good jelly they make, and they grow so abundantly in the Southern States. I pick the pears several days before I want to use them, and let them wither a little, and the thorns are not so bad. Then pare them and cut them up a little; cook them in very little water. Then strain them twice through a small sieve; do not squeeze them through a rag, or they will be stringy. Use a cup of sugar to 11-2 cups of juice, and boil till it bubbles like mush. It will not boil down so that it can be cut with a knife, as a great many like jelly, but it is quite thick, and a delicious flavor.

I have tried a great many receipts in the Comfort and like them very well; and hope you will like mine. Your faraway consin,

JANE E. WARD.

I hope some one will try this receipt and re-

Thope some one will try this receipt and re-port their success. I confess that I never saw a prickly pear in my life; they do not grow so ar north as New Edgland; so my knowledge of their properties is decidedly limited.

their properties is decidedly limited.

PICKLED PLUMS.

Good sized plums like the Purple Gages are best for pickling. For 10 pounds of fruit, use 5 pounds of sugar, 1 quart of vinegar, 2 ounces of stick cinnamon, and a few whole cloves. Stick 2 or 3 cloves in the plums, and prick the skins with a fork so they will not burst. Heat the sugar and vinegar, skim, put in the spices and plums; cook until tender, but do not allow them to break; can quickly, while hot.

PICKLED CHERRIES.

Select nice cherries, the red, sour ones are preferred; leave the stems on and proceed the same as with Pickled Plums, except do not prick them with a fork or stick them with cloves.

To PRESERVE CURRANTS.
To 10 pounds currants, 7 pounds sugar; take stems from 7 pounds currants, press the juice from other 3 pounds. When sugar is made into hot syrup, put in currants; boil until thick and rich.

MAMIE LE DUKE, Hathaway, Tenn. I noticed in September Comport that A. M. M. wants a receipt for peach jelly. I will send mine, perhaps she will like it; my jelly is lovely.

lovely.

I take my peaches that I am going to can or preserve and pare them as thin as I can with a raife. I wash the parings and place them in a large preserve pan and cover with water, and boil them about 20 minutes; then drain them abnough a colander, do not press or squeeze them. Then I take a cup of sugar for every cup of pice, and boil until it jellies.

Will some one send a receipt for graham bread?

COUSIN PEARL.

Dear Consin Ceres:—I will make you a call

Dear Cousin Ceres: —I will make you a call and give you some receipts; they are all good.

SCALLOPED APPLES.

Butter a pudding dish and put one layer of peeled sliced apples in the bottom. Sprinkle with sugar, a very little flour and cinnamon, and some small bits of butter. Fill the dish in this manner and bake one hour, covering the dish to prevent burning on the top. Serve rold or hot.

One cup butter, 2 cups sugar, 2 eggs, 1 cup grated cocoanut, 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder, flour enough to roll; roll very thin, bake quickly but do not brown.

One cup sugar, 2 tablespoonfuls of butter, beat butter and sugar to a cream, 1 egg, 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder, 1-2 cup milk, 1 teaspoonful

lemon.

WASHINGTON CAKE.

One cup sugar, I tablespoonful butter, beat sugar and butter to a cream, 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder, 3-4 cup.of milk, white of 1 egg, I teaspoonful lemon; bake in layers.

FILLING FOR WASHINGTON CAKE.—Yolk of 1 egg, I cup milk, I-2 cup sugar, 2 tablespoonfuls corn starch, beat all together. Set on stove and stir until cooked. Then put in 1 teaspoonful lemon and stir well; spread on cakes.

Lou Howland, Academy Corners, Pa.

Here are a few more choice receipts from an

Here are a few more choice receipts from an old contributor.

Four eggs, 2 tablespoonfuls of butter, 1-2 pint of milk, 1 cup of sugar, the juice of 2 oranges and the rind of one. Beat the butter and sugar to a cream; add the beaten eggs gradually with juice and grated rind; lastly add the milk thickened with a little corn starch; bake in a slow oven 25 minutes.

One-half cup sour cream, 1-2 cup vinegar, a little salt and sugar mixed with the cabbage after it is chopped; mustard to suit the taste; heat the vinegar and cream, then pour over the cabbage.

Baked onions.
Boil in salted water 1-2 hour, lift outl with a drain spoon and lay them closely together in a baking-pan, salt and pepper, also 1-2 teaspoonful of butter on each onion; bake in a hot oven 1-2 hour, when they should be both tender and browned.

Grate 1 dozen boiled potatoes; add 2 eggs, a little salt, 1-2 cup of milk, enough flour to knead stiff; then cut in small pieces, then roll long and round one inch thick; fry in plenty of lard to a nice brown.

of lard to a nice brown.

STUFFED CABBAGE.

Cut out the heart of a fine large cabbage, fill the vacancy with cooked chicken or yeal minced very fine, highly seasoned and rolled into balls with yolk of eggs. Tie the cabbage firmly together and boil in a covered kettle 2 hours.

Miss L. G. Gramm, Cordelia, Penn.

One and one-half cups sugar, 1 cup butter, 2-3 cup sweet milk, 2 eggs, 2 teaspoons powdered ammonia, stir in as much flour as possible before rolling out. Cut in shapes and turn upper side in sugar. Bake in a quick oven and you will have delicious cookies.

LEMON CREAM.

Mix before putting on the fire, I pint of lemon juice, I pound of sugar, 10 well beaten eggs, I ounce of corn starch stirred until smooth and the grated rind of I lemon; place on the stove and beat it or stir constantly until It just cooks, take off, and beat a little while longer, then turn out in a deep dish or in small moulds. Serve with cakes for dessert or tea. MADGE.

Next month I will promise some delicious candy receipts, and other delicacies appropriate to the coming winter season. Thank you, kind cousins, for your contributions.

COUSIN CERES, (Care of COMFORT.)

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WATCHES AT LOW PRICES.

Turbe was a time when the possession of a watch was considered a many quanted to many. That absolves the invention of the machinery which brought about a revolution in the production of this essential article of our daily any of the formerly an artisan working early and lade could turn to Where formerly an artisan working early and lade could turn of hand a few watches at year, he can now, with the aid of improved hand a few watches at year, he can now, with the aid of improved hand a few watches, and nobody need now be without one. On another page we publish an advertisement of W. S. Sinpson, at College Place, New York. This gentleman carries a large line of watches and pewelry, and there can be found in his establishment of watches and pewelry, and there can be found in his establishment all of the process of the production of the product

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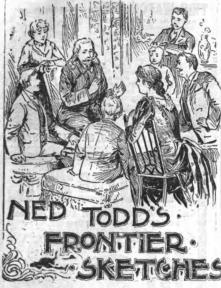
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Please mention Convort when you write,



It had been a busy day in Oklahoma City. The trains had borne scores of people from the States and the piles of dry goods which were heaped about the store buildings were enormous. A man who still retained something of the frontier rusticity and whose hair was silvered with gray, could be seen walking about the streets in his hunting jacket of tanned fawn skin.

On his head he wore the broad brimmed hat of the frontier. He was an object of curiosity to almost everybody.

tanned fawn skin.

On his head he wore the broad brimmed hat of the frontier. He was an object of curiosity to almost everybody.

"Who is he?" was the universal question.

"That is Ned Todd the frontier scout and hunter," was the answer."

"Ned Todd."

Everybody had heard of him and when it became known that that man with silvered hair was Ned Todd he became more of a curiosity than ever. When it became known at which hotel he stopped, the place was beseiged with people asking admission but only a few could be accepted. Night came and the great parlor was filled with people who having learned that Ned Todd was about to recite some of his famous adventures had come to hear him.

Winnie Dawson the pretty young school miss and Jack Royal a young dry goods clerk sat close together, and Tom P. Morgan the young author averred that Jack was guilty of squeezing Winnie's hand. John H. Whitson, another author who lived just over the line in Kansas, said that Tom had no right to which Morgan, who by the way is a young bachelor, said that Whitson did not know how much that concerned him.

It was evident to a new comer that Ned Todd had been accustomed to relate stories to the young people.

"Now Mr. Todd," began Winnie.

been accustomed to relate people.
"Now Mr. Todd." began Winnie.
"Didn't I tell you to never mister me," the veteran frontiersman said with a twinkle in his mild gray

frontiersman said with a twinkie in his hind gis, eye.

"Well, Uncle Ned then. I can't call you Ned."

"All right Ittle girl," Ned Todd responded, filling his pipe with golden leaf tobacco. "I will make a compromise with you on Uncle Ned. Mind you it is to be only Uncle Ned, not Mr. Todd. But I didn't mean to frighten you out of what you was going to say. Go on little girl,"
"I was going to ask you if you wouldn't tell us another story or two before bed time."

The hunter and scout smiled good humoredly as he answered:

The hunterand scout smiled good numoredly as ne answered:

"Why little girl you are going to make a regular story paper out of me. I will soon get to a point where I will have to say, "To be continued in our next," when I haven't time to finish a yarn."

"But Uncle Ned you promised to tell us a story tomoth."

where I will have to say, "To be continued in our next," when I haven't time to finish a yarn."

"But Uncle Ned you promised to tell us a story tonight."

"All right little girl, and it shall never be said that Ned Todd ever broke his word even with a little girl school teacher. Now if you will make Jack Royal keep right still and not make a noise I will tell you the love story I promised you last time.

"About forty miles west of Fort Wingate in New Mexico is the great Zuni town, an enormous pueblo—a terraced building of five stories—containing a thousand half civilized Indians. They have always been friendly to the whites, but showed great bravery in their wars with other Indians. They cultivated the ground with great skill, producing abundance of corn, wheat, beans and melons. Their wealth is in sheep and goats, blankets, beads and pottery. In this great human hive are carried on all the complicated concerns of an advanced condition of life; government, manufactures, art and religious rites. They are domestic in their tastes, and I never saw a people so fond of pets. Turkeys and tame cagles abound among them, living above the terraces of the pueblo, sometimes even in their dwellings.

"Zamaca was a Zuni Indian, a noble young fellow as one ever saw. He was kind and charitable, and brave as a lion. Zamaca like all young Zunis was to be married at a certain age to Pruilla the daughter of Cacique. I have seen Pruilla and I must say I never saw a more beautiful girl in all my life. Now Winnie don't you pout your pretty lips. Had you seen her you would say I was right. Everybody thought Zamaca lucky.

"One day while on a hunt Zamaca heard the report of guns and yell of Apaches in a gulch, and hurrying there saw an officer from the fort, a young lieutenant, wounded and down on the ground, his horse killed at his side. Zamaca bravely charged the Apaches, droy. them away, rescued the officer and carried him nine miles on his back to his home, or apartments rather, in the big flat called the Zuni house. Here he car (u

from the rement his evil eyes reseed as the happiness fled.

"He illy repaid the brave Zuni for saving his life. In five short weeks the lieutenant had the Indian girl infattated. The red girls like their white sisters sometime make a fool over a man who wears fine clothes. The blue coat, the brass buttons, the gold cord, the gorgeous uniform and sliver handled sabre won the poor little Zuni beauty. Then she was car-

cord, the gorgeous uniform and silver handled sabre won the poor little Zuni beauty. Then she was carried away by the soft, vain flattery which the officer poured in her ear.

"Zamaca was forgotten. No more was his society desired and in vain he came to her apartment to sit and smoke, to watch her spin yarn from her father's wall or weav blankets or cloth. She heeded him not. Many times she was gone with the officer, who wandered with her about the turrets of the house, or climbed down the five long ladders to the carth where she strolled on the plain. When Lieut. Riley recovered and went to his quarters Zamaca hoped that all would be over, but he returned and Pruilla would no more tolerate her Indian lover.

"One day as the officer was descending from the Zuni house, which is always entered by means of ladders from the top, he found Zamaca at the bottom lader waiting on the ground. He halted the lieutenniand said:

"Is it a generous act of a white man whom the unit saved from death, carried on his back to his lowe? I have ever been kind oyou. I would have given my life for the white mar and now in return he steals my Pruilla's heart from ne. You do not want the Zuni for your wife, then why wreek her happiness and mine?

"The officer who had but little qualities of the man said:

"Come back with me. We will go to her and see

"Come back with me. We will go to her and see who she will choose."

"Zamaca, knowing full well what would be the result of such an issue, went with him and they bot? sto a before the infatuated Pruilla. She was asked which she would choose and poor girl, we can blame her, many a girl graduate chooses fine clothe in place of manhood, and she did the same. She accepted the officer and bade Zamaca leave forever.

"Sadly he took his departure, wending his way along the roof to the ladder. His pet eagles and turkeys came about him, he fondled them affectionately and descended to the earth. He went sadly away and next day was found dead at the bottom of a towering cliff.

"Of course the officer jilted the pretty Zuni girl after a time and she refused food, refused to speak, but sat lonely and desolate in a dark apartment until she starved to death. Did you ever hear of a more thrilling love story?"

When he had finished the veteran scout knocked the ashes from his pipe and crushing another handful of golden leaf in his left hand proceeded to stuff it into his pipe. This was regarded by the boys who knew Ned best as a good omen.

"As long as he fills up that old pipe there is more stories coming," whispered Tom Morgan. "When his pipe stays empty he tells no more stories."

"It would be better for a suffering public." Whitson whispered, "if you were the same way and you would run out of tobacco."

"John Whitson, if your arm would take the lockiaw so you couldn't write another story, you would save many a poor fellow from the nightmare."

Ned Todd again turned his eyes toward them. But Jack Royal eager to hear another story said:
"Ned, tell us a cow boy story."

Ned eyeing the authors said:
"Those two fellows are already quarrelin' over the material I am furnishin' 'em and maybe I had better stop."

"We will be sure to fight over that. Givens another

"No, you have given us one," said Tom Morgan.
"We will be sure to fight over that. Give us another
so we can have one apiece."
"That's it,' cried everybody. "Give them one

aplece."
"All right." Ned had lighted his pipe and was

"All right." Ned had lighted his pipe and was smoking.

"Jack there wants a cow boy story so here goes. Now a cow boy life has as little romance in it, as the life of a country school teacher. But it is thought by everybody to possess a charm. Unless hardship and privation are charms there is not a grain of charm in it nor about it. There is very little adventure in it, and it's the most hundrum life one ever led.

and privation are charms there is not a grain of charm in it nor about it. There is very little adventure in it, and it's the most humdrum life one ever led.

"Sometimes there is an adventure as in a round up when a fellow is gored, or a stampede when one is crushed. One of the wildest, most exciting scenes one ever gazed upon in my opinion is a stampede at night. I never saw but one and that is sufficient to last me to the end of my days, I don't care to ever witness another.

"I was down on Red River a number of vears ago with the Indian agent driving out the cattle of non-residents from the Indian Territory. Twenty-six thousand head of cattle had been rounded up. We had but a few cow boys of experience to manage such a monster drove of cattle. I had had considerable experience as a cow boy in my earlier days and could handle the quirt and lasso quite effectively.

"One night I noticed that the cattle were growing restless and uneasy. They had been rounded up for the night and it was a dark evening, a heavy bank of clouds in the west portended a coming storm and I knew that we would have it before morning.

"The low rumbling thunder in the far off west growled in its approach nearer and nearer to us. Now the Lord only knows what causes some stampedes. The boys sometimes think it's something the cattle scent in the atmosphere, but I don't know. "They seemed to become suddenly nervous. There was short bellows of dread. Even the bulls no longer gave their low defiant bellows but uttered short gasping screams of fear. One who has never seen a stampede knows nothing of it.

"They are gittin uneasy," one cow boy whispered. "Thunder'll be ter pay afore mornin'!"

"He was correct, for we did have a wild time before morning. The cattle grew more and more restless, the bellowing became wilder and the infectious disease of fear seemed uncontrolable. I could actually see the poor beasts tremble. It was not long before they began to paw the earth and then came the climax.

"They all seemed to start with a wild bellowing c

cry toward the woods.

"Stampede—stampede—will it—will the stampede, cried the Indian agent."

"What does willing a stampede mean?" Winnie asked.

"When cattle get started on a stampede they will run until they are exhausted. One always seems to take the lead and they follow each other. Then in order to keep them from running away and scattering all over creation, you must get them willed, that is going around in a circle. To do that a cow boy starts around the herd and comes upon the leaders, these he lashes on the side and head until heg ets them gradually turned in a circle. The circle may stretch over three or four miles, but they all keep going round and round until they run down. Now to will the stampede is very dangerous. If your horse falls you will be trampled to death by the thousands of hoofs that follow.

"I heard the cry to will the stampede and with some reluctance begun the perilous undertaking. Mounting my horse I dashed forward into the darkness. It seemed to me as if the earth had become a sea of rocking heads and tails. The lightnings flash occasionally painted a lurid glare on the sky and showed a terrible picture. I was a stranger in the country and knew not the shape of the land.

"Away we sped. The thunder made the earth quake and the roar of hoofs was deafening. I grasped my rein and with my quirt tried to tame the cattle in the advance, bellowing, starting, rushing. Alarmed at the thunder of the wind.

"Sometimes we seemed dashing through the thickest trees and bushes, sometimes we thundered over a prairie. The ground was rough. My horse stumbled more than once, but I kept tight rein on him and prevented his falling. I had shouted to the frightened cattle until I was hoarse without effect. At last I resolved to gallop around them and turn the leader. I dashed away at the top of my horse's speed at the right of the herd, determined to make a circuit about them and come on them on their right fank.

"My companions were lost in the rear. I could not hear them any longer and must depend on

three hundred were killed by falling over a precipice and the others or a part of them were gathered up in a few days and driven across Red River into Texas. When a man says he has never been scared in his life he has either never had anything to frighten him or he is a liar. I have had several things in my life to alarm me, but I believe the narrow escape of that night has put as many gray hairs in my head as any other event. But it's growing late—"

"Oh Ned," cried Jack Royal, "tell us about the Benders, that family of murderers in Kansas."

"Not to-night."

"Will you tell us to-morrow night of the Benders, Uncle Ned?" asked Winnie in her winsome way.

"Perhaps I will,"

"Bay you will."

"I will, se go to bed and good-night until to-morrow."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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Please mention Confort when you write.



MY DEAR YOUNG PRIENDS:

This is the month when we have our New England holiday, which we call Thanksgiving Day. Doubtless most of you are looking forward to it as a vacation time, a day of feasting and enjoyment; and that is right, for its founders set us that example. But I want you to stop for a moment and think about what it really means; let us talk about it a little. Thanksgiving Day, what is that? is it not a day for giving thanks? Yet how few ever think of that.

We cach have many things for which to be thaukful; there is no need to numerate them, because each one knows best for himself what are the good things in his life. And who sends us these blessings? God, our Heavenly Father, who is all the time watching over us, whether we are thinking of Him or not. We are very ungrateful if we never think of His loving care, or give Him one word of praise for the happiness and comforts He gives us. So on this coming Thanksgiving Day, in the midst of the good time and jollity, will not each one of my "young folks" try to have a thankful heart and a spirit of gratitude toward our Heavenly Father. Don't think Auntie is preaching. I do not want you to be pious little prigs, but I do want you to be happy, earnest boys and girls, healthy in soul and body; and you cannot be all this unless you have begun to recognize and know your best Friend, the Lord who made you, and to whom you belong.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I live in a small village about 7 miles from Lake Ontario. In summer a good many

your best Friend, the Lord who made you, and to whom you belong.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I live in a small village about 7 miles from Lake Ontario. In summer a good many go from here to the lake eamping and also a great many pienies go there. This village has about 500 inhabitants. At this place the peach and pear crops are very large this year, there were also lots of cheries, but the grapes were nearly all killed by frosts. We have quite a number of vineyards right hear here. Ido not attend school now as my eyes trouble me some, but I love to read. I paint quite a good deal and also do some fancy work. My parents are living but I have no brothers or sisters. I am a Christian and try to do something each day for Him who has done so much for me. I have an organ and that helps me pass many hours. I should like to have some of the cousins write to me. I will try to answer all letters from cousins not over 18. With best wishes, Edith M. Shaw, Box 90, Hannibal, Oswego Co., N. Y.

There is one girl who is not ashamed to show her colors. I hope there are many more like her.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I live in Florida. My papa and mama and my sister and myself came from Mass. 3 years ago last March, to live at Silver Springs Junction. At Silver Springs, two miles from here, there is a beautiful spring, and the water is so clear you can see a pin at the bottom 80 feet deep. My papa works in Ocala where we get our mail. Ocala is 3 miles from here and is a large city; it is talked of as the future capital. Tallahassee is the capital now, but it is in the northern part, while Ocala is about in the centre. I live about 150 feet from the railroad. Two trains stop here every day, one going south and one going north, and two trains go by without stopping. We had strawberries 6 months, 6 quarts a week from a farm 1-2 mile away. All kinds of flowers are in bloom and will bloom all through the winter. I am 12 years old and have never written to any paper before. Jennie A. Mower, Box 417, Ocala, Fla.

It must be quite a change from the cold climate and east winds of New England, to the sunny land of Florida? I should like to see your flower-garden, Jennie, for I know you have lovely roses, and everything that is pretty.

Dear Aunt:—I am a boy 13 years old, and live in the northeasiern part of colo. This place he about.

thing that is pretty.

Dear Aunt;—I am a boy 13 years old, and live in the northeastern part of Colo. This place has about 1000 inhabitants. If any of the cousins will write to me, I will tell them about the cowboys and the country around here. I have no pets, but I used to have an antelope, a prairie dog, and a cat; the cat would sleep with the dog. We live a mile from the South Platte river, and 140 miles from Denver. I go to the Broadway High School, and on Saturdays I work in a real estate office. Your loving nephew.

VIRGIL B. WATTS, Sterling, Colo.

Will you not write a letter for our column, Virgil, all about the country where you live? Then all the cousins can have the benefit of it. I wish you would tell us something about your prairie dog, too; how did he look, and what did he eat?

did he look, and what did he eat?

Dear Aunt:—I thought probably you would like to hear from a little Mormon boy from Utah. I am not quite 11 years old. I attend Sunday-school on Sunday and primary meetings on Friday, and I am sure that if all little boys and girls do as they were taught, they could not be the naughty wicked people that we are reported to be. We live in a little town about 40 miles south of Salt Lake City. I have 4 brothers and Sisters; that makes us 10 in family, and sometimes ma says she feels like
"The old woman that lived in a shoe, She had so many children she didn't know what to do." We are having quite a rain storm, which makes the farmer rejoice. Your nephew,
DOUGLAS RODEBACK, Cedar Valley, Utah Co., Utah. Well, what a good time you must have at your

Well, what a good time you must have at your house, Douglas! You surely never get a chance to be lonesome. I should like to know what your "primary meetings" are; something like a "Junior Endeavor" Society? Tell us when you write again.



Polly gives the kitten a bath. (Query.) Good Gracious! Where is the kitten.

Query.) Good Gracious! Where is the kitten.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Will you please let me come in and be your niece too? I would like to tell the little cousins how I've been spending vacation. I went to see my uncle away out in the country. It was a long ways, but we went by land; and oh, you who have never traveled through the country can't imagine the pleasure there is! There were only four of us, but what a niec time we did have! On Tuesday we began making ready to start the next day. We cooked provisions to last us two days, for it took two days to perform the journey. We packed our trunks and had everything in perfect order, to start the next morning, though it did seem that the next morning never would come. Never did a night seem so long. But when day did come, I was up earlier than ever before. That was one morning mother didn't have to call and call and keep calling and then drag me out of bed to get me up. Bright and early Wednesday we were ready to start on our first day's journey. We traveled about eight miles, when we were joined by the rest of our party. There never were a jollier four together, I believe. We traveled through long dusty roads, and down hills, till it did look like we would get to the bottom after a while, but I don't believe we ever did. After we had gone some distance through the hot sun and dust, our appetites were beginning to return. Now the next thing was to find a cool brook and shade, that we might eat and rest. After going down one of the

longest hills in the county, we came to a small creek, where we concluded to stop and eat some "grub." Oh, how cool and refreshing it was to bathe our face and hands in the water! There we ate our dinner, and afterwards a water-melon, and just had a joily time. But I don't think one poor fellow enjoyed it very much, for the first thing he did, was to get into a great nest of those hateful little things you call ticks. We stayed there more than an hour, and the boys filled up the bottles with fresh water to start again. We traveled on and on till the sun began to sink in the western horizon, and as we were near some houses, the boys thought it best to take up for the night. There we divided, two went to one house and the other two to another place. But the old "oman" didn't talk much like we could stay, and we commenced putting on our thinking caps to know what to do. But after a while she decided to let us stay. She said, "John will be to the house arter while, and I reckin you can stay." So we stayed. Well, it did seem that that was the longest night is ever witnessed. I rolled and tumbled from one side of the bed to the other, but at last I was dozing a little when the old man began roaring for his people to get up. He called the old woman first, "Beck, Beck, get up Beck!" At last she grunted a little, and then he commenced calling "Sal." He called her about forty times before he could get a single grunt from her. He called some of them about a dozen different times before he could get any one up. After breakfast, when we all had gotten back together (I wasn't sorry a bit either), we started from there, and traveled all day, only stopping long enough to eat and rest. Just before the sun begun to seek its hiding place again, we were in a beautiful little town, where we all took in a good drink of soda water to revive us up and wash the dust down. We were then eight miles from our unele's. We reached his home at last, where we seent many pleasant hours. When it came time to return home we bade them farewell, an

One girl had a good time in her vacation, that is very evident, in spite of ticks and bed-ticks, (was it the hard bed that made you roll around so, the night you stayed with "Beck" and "Sa!l") By your desscription, I should think you lived in a hilly country; "Where there is so much land that they have to stack it," as the old Vermont farmer said about his State.



DOROTHY'S MITTENS.

DOROTHY'S MITTENS.

First she thought she'd have them black, stitched with yellow down the back; Then she changed her mind and said Nothing else would do but red.

Red looked warm and stylish too, So, indeed, did navy blue.

Navy blue with scarlet tops Such as sold in all the shops. Then again there's brown which "goes" With almost any kind of clothes. And brown she'd somehow never tried. She thought she might as well decide On that—she paused and then went back Through all the list, once more to black. And black she said they'd surely be, So mamma bought the wool, you see, And now they're having lots of fun O'er Dolly's mittens, just begun.

F. Je shall not have room to talk any more F. L. S.

We shall not have room to talk any more this month, so I will wish you all a good time for Thanks-giving Day, and don't forget our little "preach."

Your loving,

Aunt Minerva,
(Care of COMFORT.)

A Sure Chance to Make Money.

I read with interest letters from correspondents. If this, my first letter, escapes the waste basket, I may write others. My old schoolmate made so much money plating knives, forks, etc. I ordered a \$5 machine from H. F. Delno & Co. of Columbus, Ohio. I made \$21 the first week. I get all the plating I can do, and sold three platers at \$12 profit. The work is splendid even on the finest jewelry. Any reader can get circulars by writing and have profitable employment the year round.

Young Reader.

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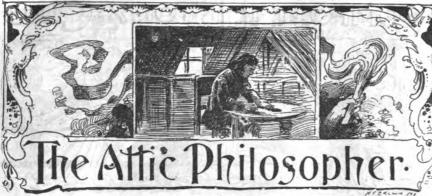
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ease mention Compost when you write.



IN Memphis, the capital of ancient Egypt, there was a celebrated academy, one of the rules of which was as follows: "Members will meditate much, write little, and talk the least possible." The institution was known as "The Silent Academy;" and there was not a person of any literary distinction in Egypt who was not ambitious of belonging to it.

As before stated I was a member of this academy and the Editor of Comfort has asked me to unfold some of the ideas I gleaned while there. But having no philosopher's stone or mysterious origin for any of my reflections, I can perhaps do as well for the readers of Comfort to work in with these ideas points on what I see around me every day, so this month I will write

CONCERNING INQUISITIVENESS.

CONCERNING INQUISITIVENESS.

When Solomon, my dear friends, urged people to get wisdom, he didn't mean to encourage them to poke their noses into other people's business. You have no right to ask a woman her age and then apologize by saying that you are merely in pursuit of useful information.

that you are merely in pursuit of useful information.

A young man once asked a prospective father-in-law what his income was. "Mind your own business!" was the reply. "That's what I'm doing!" urged young Hopeful.

But I can't commend such a view of the matter. If you give some folks a pan of milk, they would be too lazy to skim it, and others would go without butter rather than do the churning.

But I'm wandering from my subject. It seems to me inquisitiveness is on the increase. These labor saving devices give our folks so much time that they bestow a part of it on their neighbors.

My friends, learn to mind your own business. The world will be better off for it.

Don't watch your neighbors' clothes lines to see how many sheets they use in a month. Don't count the times the butcher calls to find out how often your neighbors eat fresh meat. At's none of your business.

It doesn't pay you to sit up late to see at what hour your neighbor comes home. During meeting, don't took about you to see whether Mrs. Blobson has made over her black silk instead of buying a new one.

In looking over a photograph album, if you must ask questions, assume that everybody is some relation to the person showing you the album.

St. Paul justified a lie in some cases, and I would say: Always tell a fib. where a world in the see and the seems the

must ask questions, assume that everybody is some relation to the person showing you the album.

St. Paul justified a lie in some cases, and I would say: Always tell a fib when a person asks you an impertinent question. It will make the world better in the end.

Take certain things for granted, my dear friends: That no woman ever wears tight shoes: that eggs are never born on the day the grocer says they are; that a woman's tongue is like a race horse, the less load it carries, the faster it goes; that all thieves claim to be honest men; that no man ever admitted that he was lazy when he was a boy; that when the chickens roost high the weasels must be about; that all the brutes are not in the barn when you see the wife look pale and hollow-eyed and the children slink into the corner at the sound of the father's voice!

Young man, when you hear the roosters crowing, there's no use asking your sweetheart if it's late.

If you ask questions of a cheap lawyer, don't be surprised if his advice turns out to be

If it's late.

If you ask questions of a cheap lawyer, don't be surprised if his advice turns out to be worthless. You can't get something for nothing in this world, my friends. Your children can't even catch the measles without going next door.

even catch the measles without going next door.

Never ask a man why he wears his whiskers in a certain way and don't advise your neighbors how they shall trim their hedges.

You will observe that a man who is passing counterfeit money never stops to ask how much a thing is worth.

Deal honestly with yourself and when you ask yourself an honest question, give yourself an honest reply.

The wisest man in the world is the man who never asks a question, such a man once walked ten miles rather than consult a signboard at a fork in the road.

Don't think, my friends, that an unwilling witness is necessarily an untruthful one.

I have often seen a skilful witness save a stupid lawyer.

If you must ask a question, ask it in a neat and concise manner. Avoid too strong a rising inflection.

The law says: Don't answer a question if it tends to criminate you, and I add: Don't answer a question before it is put to you, a reluctant witness is quite as bad as a too eager one.

Some people are like old pumps, you may

one.
Some people are like old pumps, you may pump away for dear life but you can't get anything out of them until you first moisten their throats. Cider does very well for a man, but there is nothing like a cup of good strong tea for a woman.

for a woman.

If a man shows an inclination to be leaky,
don't poke him full of holes by your sharp
questions. Give him time and he will tell you

don't poke him full of noise by your game, questions. Give him time and he will tell you all he knows.

A lazy father should never ask his son why he doesn't get up early, nor a slovenly mother wonder at her daughters lack of tidiness.

I am acquainted with men who think that by giving a man a cigar, they can make him talk, so they may but what he says is very apt to end in smoke.

On general principles, my friends, if you want to know a thing very badly, don't ask questions.

want to know a thing very badly, don't ask questions.

Some men hate to be questioned. It's like pulling teeth to get anything out of them, but when you do get an answer like the dentist, you have got at the root of the matter.

Asking questions of some people is like pounding a turtle on the back to make him stick his head out.

You can no more coax a secret out of some people than you can put a turtle in good humor by stroking his shell.

To some of you, my friends, I would say that if you would only spend as much time over your own business as you do overother peoples' you'd grow rich in a few years.

The man who asked the first question may justly be called the Father of lies.

If you want to ask a question of an unmarried woman, a stranger to you, begin by calling her madam; if she be a married woman begin by calling her miss.

Don't cross-examine people when conversing

with them. It's not good breeding to pin a person down to yes or no.

If you have had one glass of liquor you are a poor person to ask whether you should have another.

another.

Don't ask a second woman to be your wife until you get an answer from the first.

Never ask a man with one arm, how he lost the other. He might tell you it was bitten off.

My friends, use your eyes and your ears more and you'll have less occasion to use your tongue.

MAKING OLD FOLKS YOUNG.

MAKING OLD FOLKS YOUNG.

Gentlemen:—You may want to know who H. Birney is. I am an old farmer, 60 years of age. I have not been able to work on the farm or do a day's labor for 18 years. You sent me one tablet last spring wrapped up in a circular. The circular told me what the tablet was for, so I thought I would try a box and if I was sold I would be a wiser man.

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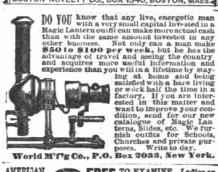
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possessed a peculiar fascination for him and that he took delight in contemplating anything strange and inexplicable. Such a hold do these first faint perceptions of the mystery surrounding life take upon the minds of children that it is almost safe to say that no human being ever attained manhood or womanhood without having the mind to some slight degree tainted with superstition.

ing the mind to some slight degree tainted with superstition.

Two thousand years ago, standing in the midst of Mars Hill at Athens, then the splendid centre of art and literature, Paul cried out to the Athenians: "Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious!" If it were possible for the great apostle to walk the earth to-day and mingle with men and women as they are, he would be tempted to cry out again, but thanks to the sublime faith for which he so bravely battled, he would not be justified in speaking quite so harshly; and yet he might say with a quiet smile: Men and brethren, I perceive that in many things, very many things, ye are given to foolish superstition, that ye will not sit down to meat with thirteen at table, that ye will not go of a journey on Friday, that ye seek for the new moon over your right shoulder, that ye reach to touch the raiment of a hunchback for luck as ye term it, that ye fail not to throw a pinch of spilt salt over your left shoulder, that ye nail horseshoes over your doors to exclude evil spirits, that ye delight in lucky pennies, that ye will neither ask or give in marriage on Monday, that ye will not send a child to school for the first time on Wednesday lest he never learn to read, because on Wednesday it was that Judas betrayed our dear Master, that ye wait till Friday to cut your hair and nails and that you will not lay your linen out on Saturday lest it remain forever brown!

*

The superstitions of the middle ages were as

The superstitions of the middle ages were as horrible and repulsive as those of our day and generation are innocent and harmless. In the dark ages, the people were awed, oppressed and brutalized by such degrading beliefs as the were-wolf and the vampire, to say nothing of the widespread belief in witches—a belief which in Scotland alone, from first to last resulted in the putting to death of 4,000 people. In 1520 fires for the burning of witches blazed in every town of France. The horrible superstition of the transformation of men into were-wolves or "man wolves," who thereupon became endowed with wolfsh instincts and appetites including an insatiable appetite for human flesh need not be described here. Nor any more is it necessary to set down in details of the belief in vampires—blood sucking ghosts, which leave their graves by the light of the moon and in the forms of spiders, frogs, toads, cats, dogs, etc., suck the blood from living people. Let us rather turn to the more or less harmless superstitions of the age in which we live, to lucky numbers for instance, the belief in which owes its origin to the recurrence of these numbers in holy writ. Three, four, seven forty belong to this category. The choice of number three is due to there being three persons in the Trinity, to the three days passed by Jonah in the whale's body, to the three hlows given by Balaam to his ass, to the three times Peter denied his Master, and to the resurrection of our Saviour on the third day. There are also three fates, three furies, and three Christian virtues, faith, hope and charity. As to the number four, there are four elements and four evangelists. The seven is a favorite because God created the world in seven days, and because the temple was seven years building and there were seven lamps and seven golden candlesticks before the throne of God. The number forty of course owes its popularity to the fact that the Israelites were forty years in the wilderness. On the other hand, the number thus and solven god and there were sev The superstitions of the middle ages were as horrible and repulsive as those of our day and generation are innocent and harmless. In the dark ages, the people were awed concessed

It was again repaired but no engineer could be induced to enter it.

In spite of the spread of education due to the efforts of pulpit, press and common school, there seems to be no lessening the people's affection for the petty superstitions that have for so many centuries entered into the very weft of home life. A broken mirror means seven years of bad luck; when the fire roars in the chimney look out for bad news; when the dog howls expect death; when the hinges of the door creak it signifies that hard times are coming. Beware of an overturned salt cellar or of two knives crossed. A laugh on Friday means a sigh on Sunday. No clothes must be brushed after dark nor must an umbrella be raised indoors. A stocking put on unconsciously inside out is a sure sign of good luck, so too is a sight of the new moon over one's right shoulder. The presence of a snake in the house is a good sign; but the flight of a bird against the window a very bad one. Tuesday is robber's day and a theft committed on that day will escape punishment. A more serious superstition, but one now quite passed out of existence, is the supposed cure of scrofulous diseases by the royal touch. On Easter Sunday, 1686, Louis XIV touched sixteen hundred persons, saying to each: "The King touches thee, may God cure thee!" Hence the name of the king's evil given to such ailments. The English kings and queens down to the house of Brunswick touched vast numbers of people.

Advertisers whore "in it" will tell you this minute If you put it in "Comfort" it pays!

EDITOR'S TABLE.

COMFORTABLE TALKS ABOUT MATTERS AND THINGS.

COMFORTABLE TALKS ABOUT MATTERS AND THINGS.

Human happiness is of such brief duration and we hold it by so slight a tenure that one should not be eager to do or say the least ting to rob a fellow creature of the satisfaction which he or she may draw from the harmles delusions of life. Who does not look back with a sign to the days of his childhood when he put the shell to his ear and believed that he heard the low murmur of the ocean, when he put the shell to his ear and believed that he still had faith in the sandman who makes children sleepy, in the angels that wrote on the still had faith in the sandman who makes children sleepy, in the angels that wrote on the still had faith in the sandman who makes children sleepy, in the angels that wrote on the still had faith in the sandman who makes children sleepy, in the angels that wrote on the first panes, in good fairies and bad ones, in Santa Claus who filled the stockings at Christon have not been give upmans, in the necessity of crying "God bless you" when anyone sneezed, in the existence of the bundles of dried herbs, or strip than the certainty of rain if pussy washed above he bogieman who so disliked naughty children, in the certainty of rain if pussy washed above he will have to been put forward that supersitions make life on their backs? It would almost seem as if man were born with this love of the mysterious, that from his very cradle the supernatural strick of the bundles of dried herbs, or strip the cortain of the contain of the contain the cortain of the contain to chief the supernatural strick of the bundles of dried herbs, or strip the cortain of the people.

A few years ago a small body of reformers in this country determined to attempt to check the growth of the proved and advocated the formation of "Thirteen Club the proved and advocated the formation of "Thirteen Club the proved and advocated th



One of the members has asked me to explain the meaning of the nom de plume which I have adopted. It is a Japanese word, meaning "Man-with-glasses," and was given me while on my travels through the Mikado's kingdom; and on account of its oddity, I chose it as my pen name.

Answers to the questions in Sept. number have been sent in by Ina C. Haddock as follows:

1. Britons.
2. Notes on the War in Gaul, by Julius Cæsar.
3. They were simple, rude, but in a way war-like, brave and chivalrous.
4. The Druids had charge of all matters of

4. The Druids had charge of all matters of religion, and were held in high honor by the eople. 5. Julius Cæsar.

people.

5. Julius Cæsar.

6. After Cæsar, Plantus won many battles, also Ostorius. The Romans were generally successful until the piratical Saxons swooped down upon them.

8. 597 A.D., by King Ethelbert, through the influences of his queen Bertha.

9. Bronze helmets and battle axes of Roman workmanship, funeral urns and household utensils, and many coins bearing effigies of Roman emperors.

10. Scarcely a trace.

I should like more complete answers to questions 2, 3, 6, 8 and 9. Have the members anything to say about the correctness of the answer given to No. 6?

No. 7 is as yet unanswered. Who will speak of Roman Influence in Britain?

In the list of books which I recommended to you in Sept., the one by Freeman is "History of the Norman Conquest." not "Woman," as the type-setter made me say.

We will now have a short essay by William Hogan on the

DRUIDS.

DRUIDS.

At the time of the Roman invasion, England was inhabited by a people, the priests of whom, were known as Druids. Burton in his history of Scotland, says: "Those who have gone into the causes of druidism, attribute its vast power and mysterious influence, to the special proneness of the Celtic tribes, to subject themselves to the influence of some priesthood."

The word Druid is supposed to have been derived from "De" God, and "rouyd" speaking. It would, therefore, seem to signify those who speak of or for God.

The Druids had full control over the education of youths, and since these priests were recognized as nobles, and were exempt from carrying arms, all the youths aspired to the honor; being also the repositories of the venerable traditions of the past and the recipients of all recent knowledge, their rank and influence was manifested to the eyes of the people by imposing ceremonies and awful sacrifices.

The Druids taught the existence of one God, to whom they gave a name "Re'al" which is he.

people by imposing ceremonies and according sacrifices.

The Druids taught the existence of one God, to whom they gave a name "Be'al" which is believed to have meant "the life of everything," or "the source of all beings." The principal characteristics of Druidism were: The belief in one Supreme Being; in the immortality of the soul; and a future state of rewards and punishments; they also believed in metempsychosis, or the doctrine of the transmigration of the soul.

soul; and a future state of rewards and punishments; they also believed in metempsychosis, or the doctrine of the transmigration of the soul.

The loyalty of the land was their leading motive, and the bards inspired the warriors during the time of battle, with such tunes as led them on to victory.

We are told that they were so devoted to nature that they prohibited the use of tools in the construction of their rude works.

Clad in robes of white and wearing ornaments of gold, in the depths of the forest they celebrated their mystic rites. Whatever grew on the oak they pelized, but above all, the mistletoe, to which they gave the name signifying "All Heal." On the occasion of finding the mistletoe, two white bulls were sacrificed. Often they sacrificed human beings, and from the way they fell, the priests judged of the wrath or good will of the gods. The instrument for cutting the mistletoe, and sometimes of torture in the sacrifice of human beings, was a golden sickle.

There were some Druidesses who foretold events. It is said that the Emperor Diocletian met one of these in a tavern in Germany. She predicted to him that he should be Emperor after he had slain Aper. Though he slew many an aper, the result only came about when he stabbed Arrius Aper, whom he accused of murdering the Emperor Numerian.

One of their principal charms was the angumenn or snake's egg. It is thus described by Pliny: "It is about the size of a moderately large round apple, and has a cartilaginous rind, studded with cavities like those on the arms of a polypus."

It was supposed to be produced from the saliva of a number of angry serpents, who tossed it into the air. The fortunate Druid, who was present, caught it in his sagum as it fell, and then rode off at full speed on his horse, which was generally in waiting. The serpents pursued him, until they were stopped by arunning stream. This egg was largely used as a medicinal charm.

Augustus denounced the religion of the Druids, and Claudius extinguished it; but the

after Clinton assumed the command he received a communication from his government, informing him that a large French fleet had sailed for America, and might be expected on the coast at any moment, and ordering him to concentrate his entire force at New York, as that was the place most liable to an attack. Having sent his disabled men and stores around by sea, he withdrew from Philadelphia on June the 18th, crossed the Delaware, and began his march toward New York.

Washington, learning of Clinton's movement, quitted his camp on the 24th, crossed the Delaware, and followed in pursuit of the British. He soon came up with them; and after holding a council of war, determined to bring them to a general engagement at once. Accordingly, ou June 27, Washington sent Lafayette, with two thousand men, to confine the enemy to the plains, by occupying the hills in the vicinity of Monmouth Court-house.

On the 28th of June he sent Charles Lee, with two brigades, to join Lafayette and attack the enemy at once. When Lee came up with Lafayette, instead of being content with his own command, he demanded and obtained authority over the entire advance force, and continued the advance toward the enemy, when Clinton learned of Lee's movement, he immediately wheeled his rear in position, and opened fire upon Lee, who was soon forced to withdraw. His orders having been misunderstood by some of his subordinates, an open retreat was begun by a part of the right flank. In the excitement, Lee neglected to inform the commander-in-chief, who was coming up with the main body, of his movement; and, seeing the men falling back in disorder, and that unnecessarily, Washington suspected that the whole movement had been ordered to ruin the plan of battle.

Washington hastened forward till he met Lee, and demanded sternly: "What is the meaning of all this sie?" Affarcance and the part of the right flank.

the plan of battle.

Washington hastened forward till he met Lee, and demanded sternly: "What is the meaning of all this, sir?" After some moments of agitation, Lee reluctantly answered, that he did not intend to encounter the entire British army. "I am sorry," replied Washington, "that you undertook the command unless you meant to fight the enemy." Lee then replied haughtily that he did not think it prudent to bring on a general engagement. To this Washington answered sternly: "Whatever your opinion may have been, I expected my orders to be obeyed."

Seeing that something must be done im-

to be obeyed."

Seeing that something must be done immediately Washington reformed the fugitives on a hill and hurried the main body forward to their support. The enemy soon appeared and attempted to dislodge them, but failed; they then made an effort to turn the left flank, but this also was unsuccessful. The battle lasted until nightfall; during the night Clinton withdrew from the field and continued his retreat. The British loss in the engagement was about three hundred; the American about two hundred.

For his disobedience and disrespect to the commander-in-chief, Lee was suspended from his rank for one year. About the close of his term of punishment, he addressed an insulting letter to Congress, for which he was dismissed from the military service. He died a few years later in Philadelphia. John A. Taylor, Clarkton, Bladen Co., N. C. Address all letters to the historian, MEGANESAN, (Care of COMPORT.)

the poor man's walls of the crude pictures which adorn them, or the peasant's hut of its thatch.

GOMFORT has now reached the enormous circulation of over nine hundred thousand, and as about five persons read each paper that goes into a family, this number will be read by nearly five millions people, or one in every 12 of the inhabitants of the U.S. As COMFORT is for all, we are very desirous of having everybody obtain a copy, therefore ask you (if it is not convenient to get up a club) to get at least one new subscriber this month for this popular monthly. Now, as we want to start the New Year with a round million on our list, we have decided to offer those not working for a Club, the Jewel Song and Music Book free for every yearly 25c, subscription received this month. Many sell these books for much more than the subscription amounts to, as there are dozens and dozens of pieces in them that alone cost 25c, at the stores.

Dear Comport friends:

In looking over the different periodicals which come to my notice, my attention is often drawn to the chat columns, and I study them carefully, to see if ours may be improved by any ideas gleaned from others. It is curious to notice how the writers in these columns run in grooves. In one paper which doubtless many of you see, there seems to be a sort of mania among the wives, of talking about their husbands, and parading their domestic joys or infelicities, as the case may be, before the public. In another, the subject of house-keeping and home-making predominates, and ideas are exchanged on the training of children, household decoration, etc. Another runs largely to religious topics, while the next one taken up is filled with discussions on questions of the day, the next with descriptions of scenery, etc., and still another gives bright accounts of picnics, excursions, and funny domestic happenings. So they go, each good in its own way.

And now, what of our column? what do you suppose they say of us? I think I know very well what would be said, if all the letters that come to me could be this, "The cousins are like sheep jumping over a wall." Does some one introduce the subject of novel-reading? for months the letters pour in upon that topic, until the introduction of another starts them off in a different direction. Does some one write an aggressive letter, or air objectionable opinions? so many rice up to answer and oppose him that my mail is full of nothing else. All this is what fills up the waste-basket, and makes the compiling of our column such a difficult task.

Dear friends, let us strive for variety and interest in our Chats, and not make them merely a place for airing our own individual and generally very unimportant opinions. Write about pleasant things, give ideas for sociables and entertainments, tell of excursions and trips you have enjoyed, and curious eights that you have seen, give your ways of homemaking, and plans you may have found for making your family happy in th

Bat, tat, tat.

Oh dear me, I've rapped before,
And not a one came to the door:
So here I stand with head a dropping
And wonder if you'll hear me knocking.

Why Auntie, did I hear you say,
"Walk right in, and step this way
Into my sanctum." What a sight!
So many letters, left and right.

From every nation, I'm quite sure.
From mountain, valley, hill and moor,
From countries far across the sea
Along the banks of Don and Dee. Now in my mind it is a wonder, That Auntie's brain is not rent asunder, With such a task as it must be To sort these letters—don't you see?

That she must read and look all over, To pick the weeds from out the clover, To give us such a treat, 'tis true That it's a comfort to read them through.

Excuse me, cousins, do not fear That horrid basket sits quite near And maybe now that this will go Down to the bottom, just to show That I, more cautious should have been With rambling thoughts and horrid pen. But cousins, now I'll be sincere, And try to make my wants quite clear.

It's this, now don't one laugh,
I only want your autographs
And I'll return the compliment
With mine, should any want it sent.

And Auntie dear, I'd like to say, Oan I come in some other day And have a little chat with you About the good we all can do?

Another thing, I'd like to ask, Won't every cousin take the task To write a letter unto me? To answer all, I will agree.

But oh! those owls they look at me
As if to say, "My friend, you see
Your time is up, you've had your say."
And so I have. Good day, good day.
ISA O. HUDSON, Box 319, Medfield, Muss.

up at home. The blue birds, wrens and red birds had a continual concert in the orchard and the clear voice of "Bob White" would ring out in unexpected places. The ducks, geese and chickens were alarmingly noisy at times, especially if we wanted to listen attentively to something. At such times there was one particular rooster that seemed to think it was his duty to jump upon a bench and crow lustily. "His fate was the common fate of all" roosters. Lollie served him with dumplings and gravy the day I came away, and I had his "bosom" and "limb" for my lunch on my homeward journey.

M. L. H. your suggestion was a good one. I have been hoping the Editor would see we were partial to Aunt Minerva's column and give us more room.

JEAN RAY.

"I must tell the cousins about a picule that I and a

Aunt Minerva's column and give us more room.

"I must tell the cousins about a picule that I and a number of aunts, uncles and cousins had this summer. We live near the resorts, Petoskey and Bay View, and any cousin who has been to either place will recollect a small but picturesque creek running southward to Pine Lake, which is one of Michigan's largest inland lakes. This creek is called Harton's Creek, and along its banks are many large, deep, blue springs. We decided to go to these springs, take lunch and spend the day, gathering ferns and mineral specimens. The little cousins requested to go barefooted. This request was granted; and the one first divested of the obnoxious pieces of apparel, made a dash through the back door and soon came to grief in the pile of chips which hurt bare feet. The cousins gathered forces, made a grand leap for safety, only to dance a 'razzle-dazzle' (the cousins' term') on a thistle.

As if ear, My friend, you can be as a few and a laws. Good day, good day.

And as I have, Good day, good day.

And as I have, Good day, good day.

And as I have, Good day, good day.

The control gave werning to other and all went with a choogalist, actions both on any face, may be a seed to be a control gave werning to other and all went and the seed of the seed o

Sunday-school picnics, for I recall that twice in my life, while paddling leisurely around a certain lovely pond not far from Augusta, we came upon one of those delightful gatherings, and were invited to par-take of the chowder. Please do not ask if the invita-

take of the chowder. Frease up not ask it the invita-tion was accepted.

But now we must turn from these peaceful scenes, for I see Wisconsin Wild Bill coming, and feel sure that he will give some of these saucy girls a piece of his mind. I have been expecting for some time that we should see him again among us.

his mind. I have been expecting for some time that we should see him again among us.

"I would not have come to join your merry band again, but while reading the Chats in the July and August COMPORTS, I came across the letters of Nellie, Indignant Girl, etc., and I thought I would again have to answer. While reading what an Indignant Girl said about Kansas Red Bird's letter, I thought that I had said nearly the same thing. She asks how it is that Kansas Red Bird has corresponded with such girls. I would like to say that him wy case I did not correspond with the girl that wrote that letter; but she wrote to me asking me to correspond with her, and in that letter she gave such a description of herself, and used such language as I never saw written before. Do you see through that, Indignant Girl? Now let me turn to Miss Sadie. I think, Sadie, that Wis. Wild Bill fits me as good as Sadie does you. For I think that——, anyway, something that means one who has something to say about everybody. A lady (?) that will write such nonsense about one who is trying to organize an order of King's Sons ought not to be called by the pet name of Sadie. Please, Sadie, why would you like to give me a shaking? and what do you think would be a good name for me? Yes, 'girls give it to him in your next;' but please do not forget to give it to the one who dares to make fun of one who is trying to organize an order of King's Daughters and Sons. Does that great and noble society allow that? I will not say anything to Jennie, because I think she is a true lady. Miss H.N. S., how I wish there were more like you. I wonder if Aunt Minerva will let me come again!

Try it and see! You are right, my nephew, in reproving Sadie for her sarcasm toward one who is

Wisconsin Wild Bill.

Try it and see! You are right, my nephew, in reproving Sadie for her sarcasm toward one who is trying to do a good work. Be careful, girls, I know that too many of you like a young man better for being a little of a rascal, for I heard a fine young fellow say once, seriously, "A fellow who hasn't a spice of wickedness in him has no chance at all with the girls." That isn't very creditable to you, young ladies, especially as it is only too true. You may say that you object to a prig, but a prig is preferable to a scamp. And here is a cousin who agrees with me. "I think there is a decided improvement in the

"I think there is a decided improvement in the cousins' letters since they have been discussing intelligently topics of interest to all. Why don't we hear more from Mr. De Vere, and Mr. Virtue, whom we have not heard from in some time.

¬COMFORT-

It was a glad "good morning" As "Comfort" passed on its way But father could not withstand it, So "Comfort" came to stay.

And it brought with it its sunshine. You would really believe me, I say, Had you seen the morning's glory It spread over us that day.

And it soothed the mind of the father, For after the day's vexing care A smile illumined his face. 'Twas "Comfort" brought it there.

And it calmed the worrisome spirit That the anxious mother acquired, For gone is the careworn look. 'Twas "Comfort" removed the briers.

And the children are carefully scanning Each line that is written to them, And eagerly, busily planning With "Comfort" in each little den.

It was only a glad "good morning" As "Comfort" passed on its way, But each of us know a good thing, And "Comfort" shall surely stay.

INEZ E. BROWN

I wish to say a word to the girl—I beg pardonvoung lady cousins about their friends of the
sterner sex. Dear girls, there is nothing so nice
and enjoyable as the healthy platonic friendship,
which, I am glad to say, does sometimes exist in
these degenerate days between young people of
opposite sexes. But girls, shun as you would a
reptile, the young man who in your presence speaks
slightingly or sneeringly of the name of any woman,
good, bad or indifferent. True manhood should and
does respect the name of womanhood, and will at all
times protect it from the sneers and derogatory
railiery of those men whose ideas of manliness are
singularly distorted and peculiarly mistaken. All
men are under an everlasting obligation to protect
the name of sny and every woman, to protect her from
man's unworthiness and her own weakness. Girls,
be strong and brave and refuse all young men of
loose morals and conversation, all young men with
the fascinating (?) halo surrounding them of being
fast, refuse them your friendship or recognition, and
by so doing, win the approbation and respect of true
men and women universally. The power is in your
hands.

"Woodland Billy, you have my own ideas, particularly about education and novels. I wonder how
many of our girls are lively and full of fun? Now, I
am that sort of girl, and I have 'heaps' of fun if I do
live in the country. I don't flirt and go with the boys
every night either. I know so many girls who have
not only injured their good name, but have lost a certain indescribable charm out of their character, by
their conduct with the boys. If you respect yourself
and regard the feelings of those around you, you will
not do such foolish things. You must take an interest in your sister's 'fancy,' your brother's 'hobby' and
your neighbor's affairs. If you care nothing about
them, I fear you will not only be unkindly spoken of,
but will deserve to be. You have no right to feel that
you can 'look down' upon those around you. You
must care for them or be selfish, proud and unlovely

ten as descriptive of all the countries of the Eastern and Western continents, not too many, because I have not the time. But do not you think 'The Vassar Girls Abroad' and Mr. Stockton's 'Personally Conducted,' Maturin M. Ballou's 'Due North,' 'Due South,' would be all one could desire to know of the European countries? 'Around and About South America' by Frank Vincent and one or two more that you might mention would do for the South American countries. Now, if you will please give me the title of the best works which have been written upon travels in the Southern and Western United States of America, I shall be under many obligations for your kindness. My object is, to read in a sufficiently comprehensive form an accurate as well as interesting description of all the countries worth reading about in the most economical manner possible, as regards both time and money, as I haven't very much of either to spare.

A SUBSCRIBER."

A Subscriber."

A Subscriber."

I shall leave this letter to be answered by the other cousins, only suggesting a few books: "Scientific Sophisms," by Samuel Wainwright; "Ragnarok," by Henry Donnelly; "The World before the Deluge," by Figuier (I think.) For travels, some of my favorites are "A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mts," Miss Bird; Mrs. Brassey's books, "Around the World in the Yacht Sunbeam," and two others whose names I denot recall; "Land of the Midnight Sun," "Germany Seen without Spectacles," "Tropical Africa," "The Sunrise Kingdom"—these are but a few out of a host of interesting ones which are within our reach. Some of those mentioned by Subscriber are unknown to me, and will doubtless prove a suggestion to others as well.

of those mentioned by Subscriber are unknown to me, and will doubtless prove a suggestion to others as well.

"The idea expressed not long ago by Grace L. Enright, seems to me to indicate that the cousins have hitherto overlooked an uncultivated field in which there is an excellent opportunity to sow the seeds of wisdom. As I feel strongly inclined to aid in the development of the lower classes by disseminating among them the emanations of the brilliant minds whose productions find their natural atmosphere in the columns of COMPORT, I thought I would contribute my mite for the edification of the ashman. Of all the eccentric characters who have made their debut in COMPORT, I think Wisconsin Wild Bill serves first mention. Only think of a man who has never been in love and says he never will, and has never been in love and says he never will, and has never married and never will! And that too in this glorious and enlightened republic. Does he wish to convert us to his views? Of one thing I can assurahim, if his father had held the same views in regard to mankind and womankind, our Wisconsin friend would never have astonished the readers of COMPORT with his heretical doctrines. Neither of Lagree with him in regard to friendly correspondence. I received and answered hundreds of letters written by unknown young ladies and gentlemen, for whose acquaintance I have to thank COMPORT. In conducting this correspondence in letter writing, but I have not only gained a world of experience in letter writing, but I have been revived in my mind. Now I would say that I want boys and girls from all parts of America to write to me and also older people with young hearts are welcome. I, myself am a student 19 years of age. Now, friends who read this, remember it was written with an eye for the enlightenment of the ashman, so deal charitably with the crudeness of expression, and perhaps my next attempt will be more elaborate. LIBRARIAN, Lock-box 209, Fulton, Oswego Co., N. Y.*
Well, we can't all think alike, that is very evident. I

is another man's poison."

"I am a stenographer and typewriter employed by the Addyston Pipe and Steel Co., located at Addyston, O., on the Ohio river 13 miles below Cincinnati. The company owns another large plant at Newport, Ky. They make all kinds of pipe, casting, etc., and employ about1000 men. We also have large elevators, coke ovens, steam brick and tile mills, etc., employing hundreds of men. With its hundreds of workmen, this is a busy and progressive place. I enjoy Comport and the chats with the cousins, and would like to have a correspondent in every State.

Tour loving nephew,

STENO.

Dear Aunt:—I will write about the county and

Comport and the chaits with the cousins, and would like to have a correspondent in every Blate.

Your loving nephew,

Dear Aunt:—I will write about the county and State in which I live. Mercer Co. can boast of having the largest artificial body of water in the world, now known as Lake Mercer, within its boundary. In 1887 the construction of this great reservoir was begun as a feeder for the Miami and Erie Canal, the surface of Mercer Co. being peculiarly adapted for that purpose. Six years were required to construct this artificial lake, with a cost of \$600,000. The lake is longest east and west, its greatest length being ten miles, its greatest width four miles. Eighteen thousand acres or twenty-eight square miles are under water, the average depth of which is ten feet. It is navigable for large vessels throughout most of its extent. The scenery about Lake Mercer is conal to that which surrounds any lake not built by hand. The town of Celina on its west end is also well adapted as a summer resort. The Miami and Erie Canal which is fed by Lake Mercer has a length of 220 miles. The number of locks is 92.

Your nephew,

LITTLE BUCKEYE.

"I live in the northern part of Michigan in Antrim Co., which is dotted with small lakes and is a very pleasant country, although this season has been very dry, having had only one rain since April that did any good. We sometimes wonder what we shall eat this winter, but I think the Lord will provide. I read so many letters asking for help and I always think I should like to aid them in some way, but so many are frauds asking help for the sake of getting it when really they are not deserving. If one has a charitable disposition, there are always needy ones in one's acquaintance to help. My husband is a teacher, and when he tells of children coming to school without proper clothing, I always feel like giving them some, and only lack of money keeps me from so doing. I should like to correspond with some one who raises flowers, and also have some reading matter I should like to corre



MY DEAR PRIENDS:

I do not want you to feel your selves in the least shul out of our regular Chats by having this column to your-selves. Let us think off it in this way: that all the cousins are gather, and that one especially sunny corner is reserved for the dear invalida, where they may hear and see all that is going on without mingling with the crowd. So let us make our Sunshine Corner so bright that all the others will wish that they might be admitted into its borders.

Better than any talk which I could give you this time, is a long, bright letter from a dear girl of your own number. She looks out from our corner and gives a word of greeting to the other cousins, so as to keep in touch with all. This is a hint to all who are shut-in, to retain their connection and sympathy with the outside world as long as possible; it keeps the heart from growing old, and the life from being marrow and morbid, It is so easy to become self-centred and morbid, when pain and suffering seem to be our only portion; but there is always a way to we's keep the windows of our soul wide open to the sun,"

If we will only find it.

Dear Aunt and cousins:—If I must go to the "Shut In" corner let it be as a little ray of sunshine, for, al-

whice open to the sun,"
if we will only find it.

Dear Aunt and cousins:—If I must go to the "Shut In" corner let it be as a little ray of sunshine, for, although I have been an invalid many months—much of the time very ill—am not nearly so bad off as a large number of those who write to you, and oh, I wish all could be as happy. When one is eagerly pursuing work, it is hard (especially if young, and anxious to acquire an education) to suddenly be obliged to abandon it all. At first it is dark—dark—and we fall to see the light all about us; but by resolving to look for the bright side and make the very best of each day as it comes, we discover tiny rays of sunshine that are endeavoring to find a path among the great black clouds, only needing a little encouragement from us to grow and unite, making a bright gleam of hope. The more earnest we become in this resolve, brighter, brighter grows the light—the light of patience and contentment, a light that gives happiness when suffering and disappointments are greatest.

ness when suffering and disappointments are greatest.

Maria Johnson, I like the tone of your letters. It is our duty to make all we can of the power God has given us. "While there's breath there's hope." Hope of doing or saying something that may help another; hope of in some way making this old world of ours better and happier.

Physician's letter in Sept. Comport contains just the right spirit. When troubles must be thought of, I have found it more profitable to think of what some one clase has to bear, than worrying over the train of my own life. When planning to relieve another's suffering, longing to raise a fallen brother or sister, we forget self—forget that we too are sufferers—and become nobler because of our generous thinking.

or sister, we lorget self-forget that we too are sufferers—and become nobler because of our generous thinking.

I hope Mrs. Jones will be well remembered her birthday. Many of us who are ourselves dependent on others until able to resume work, will not find it within our power to give financial aid; but a box of pretty flowers, or other little token of remembrance, sent with a kind letter will help to make the day a pleasant one.

"Never think kind words are wasted,
Bread on water cast are they,
And it may be we shall find them
Coming back to us some day.
Coming back to us some day.
Coming back when sorely needed,
In a time of sore distress.
So, my friend, let's give them freely;
Gift and giver God will bless."

I joi; S. Edward Minard in asking "why more Good Tempiar cousins do not write and tell us of their progress"? As this temperance cousin solicits correspondence, how would be fancy a circular letter if a number of G. T. cousins would send their addresses? What a feast it would be to read that bundle of temperance talks, hearing of the workings of different lodges and thus learning new ways to help drive from our land the monster that ruins both body and soul.
Now cousin Edward, if you favor the plan let us

from our land the monater that ruins both body and soul.

Now cousin Edward, if you favor the plan let us know, through Comport, and others who think well of it could sent their addresses to you, then you could start the ball by sending a letter and a list of the ammes to the second in turn. It has been a long time since I was able to attend the lodge of which I am amember, but my interest is as great as of old, and I would be pleased with anything of the kind. This is what I thought of, so mentioned it.

Auntie, I am glad you gave the cewboys such a leastly welcome, it will be interesting to hear of their way of living. And there are Old Germany and J. Thayne willing to tell us of Germany and Utah. Audrey, Sunshine, Lecia, Alfred Leifson, Chas. De Vere and many, many others give one real comfort. I have read their letters over and over again, wish I might hear from some of them. My work, study, all—all must be long neglected and letters are one of the best of tonics. I am very fond of reading, tell me of your favorite books. Those who have made a study of music I would be glad to hear from. O cousinst don't let the Essay Club lose its place. Besides helping the poor, it is so nice for those whating to study literature, and sometimes it is hard to wait until am strong enough to undertake the reading.

Thank you, Agues, for your plea for the Essay

am strong enough to undertake the reading.

AGNES.

Thank you, Agnes, for your plea for the Essay
Olub. The members certainly need to be reminded
of their duty, and to have their enthusiasm aroused.

Thank you, Agnes, for your plea for the Essay Club. The members certainly need to be reminded of their duty, and to have their enthusiasm aroused.

Good evening, dear Aunt Minerva and Comport cousins. I have been with you so long that you seem like a band of old friends. And I have been sitting back from the crowd, enjoying all the good things, and trying to take comfort. But I see I must come forward and hand in my mite towards filling up Comport columns or the weste-basket, just as our wise and good Auntie wills it.

I am not very strong and am obliged to lie down a good share of the time, and then I read. I have just been reading in Comport, and there is so much good in it, I scarcely can tell which part I like best. I most believe though, that I like the letters a little the best, but the whole paper is a roll of comfort that I look for with pleasure each month. I hope it will never stop coming.

Why don't some of you poor weak and nervous cousins take Oxien that is so largely advertised in Comport? I take it, and I think it gives me nearly all the strength I have; before I commenced taking it my teeth and head were never free from pain, now they scarcely ever ache. You poor "Shat-Ins" might soon get up and walk out in the pure fresh air if you would try Oxien awhile. I do hope you will all try it. I could give a description of this part of Wisconsin and tell about the gold we found here a few years ago, and send the gold song I made up for them to sing, and tell about the railroad that truns by our door, and the accidents that happen here on the track, but it would all take up so much room, I don't think Auntie would like it; my letter is so long now, and I have not said half i want to now I have got started. Long may Cowsort float o'er the land, and seon may it be found in every home, is the wish of your nicce and eousin,

Mrs. NETTIE HAYS,

Boyceville, Wis.

Courage, dear triend! If the Lord has a work for you to do, He will surely loosen those bonds and set your spirit free to carry out that work. But remember that "They also serve who only stand and wait."

will close the column with the following list which mands attention from those who seek to do something for the Master.
Addresses of those who would like reading and

Mrs. L. S. Bunion, Mackiesville, Caldwell Co., Tex. Miss Minerva Poutch, Box 97, Havana, Ills. Mrs. Nancy A. Head, 2 Lawrence St., Haverhill,

lass.
Edna L. Welch, Webster, Ills.
Mrs. Anna S. Smith, Plainfield, Mo.
H. Tilney, Marysville, Kans.
Mrs. Ada F. Thompson, Box 2, Buchanan, Vt. With love and sympathy, AUNT MINERVA.

CHATS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.

when the wrong way seems to hold allurements to the little feet. Give them occasional rewards of merit. Another point in view, many mothers keep their children strictly at home, to prevent their playing with bad little boys and girls. Why not, while teaching your child what is right at home, allow him to have an influence. for good over the children less properly taught? Show him, too, that he can have this influence for good, put him upon his honor. It is a poor policy for mothers to hide things from children. If the child is inclined to get at the sugar, just put he sugar bowl down, and tell him to help himself, that you would rather he ate all the sugar in the house, than to take slyly ever so little. Just so with cake or any other delicacy. Do not allow him to take it without your knowledge, and do not hide it. Teach him that he must ask for anything wanted, which if it is proper for him to have will be given him. If your children are careless about tearing their clothing, as soon as they can handle a needle teach them to sew and mend. It is the best mode of punishment, and also teaches them to be more careful. Above all things, when your children disobey, do not promise them a whipping or other punishment unless you give it. The same thing may be said of a reward for good behavior; keep your word sacredly, in all cases, or give good reason why it is not kept. Do not let the children learn to doubt you by breaking it. I earnestly hope none of the mothers who read these cosy chats, are guilty of threatening their children with punishments they never mean to inflict.

REPORT OF THE ESSAY CLUB.

Prizes were offered for the best essay on five different books. Upon two of these no essay of sufficient merit was received; so I will divide the ten dollars offered for the five, among the three prize winners, these names are as follows:

Essay on "Adam Bede," Mrs. C. S. Hubbard of the west of the second of Essay on Ottawa, Ilis.

Ottawa, Ilis.

Essay on "Ben-Hur," Grace L. Enright, Parkersburg, W. Va.
Essay on "David Copperfield," Southern Girl,
Sparta, Tenn.

These essays will appear later in Comport.
Another competition will open in January, when a
yearly tax of 10c. will be assessed upon each member.
Our Secretary, Miss Stark, wishes to resign; and for
convenience's sake, I will take that office myself for
the present. So all money and names must be sent
to me until further notice. I hope to have a full report of membership and the state of the treasury
next month.

With many thanks for photos, specimens, etc.,
which have been so kindly sent me, I will now close
our talk.

(Care of Comport.)

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THE LYNDON HOUSE.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.

CHAPTER IV.

CHAPTER IV.

Lyndon House contained many rooms which were seldom used. Brnestine's room was in the third story, and she was the only inmate of the house who slept on that floor. She was a peculiar woman—solitude had an especial charm for her, and she could retreat to her gloomy chamber with a feeling of satisfaction that, remain there as long as she chose, she was not likely to be disturbed by the least sound. Her room was hung with time-worn taperstry which was so arranged as to conceal a door leading to a large room with no windows. The existence of this room was known only to Mrs. Lyndon and her daughter, and a few of the older servants.

Ernestine loved Harold Leighton with a mad, unreasonable passion of which few would have thought her capable, and she did not intend for him to marry her niece if she could prevent it. She plotted and planned with a shrewdness which surprised her mother. At the close of a dark, dreary October day Olive was oppressed with a feeling of restless foreboding of evil, and she went down to tea unable to shake off the gloom of her heart.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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The above illustrations, if cut out on the straight edges and correctly joined, will form a good picture of one of the best known public men in the U.S. He occupies the highest official position in the gift of the American people. Who is he? The first person who sends the correct answer will receive \$200 in Cash. The next on sending the correct answer answer will each receive \$500 in Cash. The next ten correct answers will each receive \$5. And to each of the last fifty persons who send correct answers we will each receive \$5. And to each of the last fifty persons who send correct answers we will pay \$2. With your answer you must enclose 25 cents in silver or 30 cents in postage stamps for a 50-cent package of the Best Family Medicine in the World. It is warranted to cure Indigation, Constipation, Biliousness, Liver Complaint, Sick Headache, Nervous Debility and Consumption.

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An eminent Professor of Physiology and Hygiene has lately declared that

STARVED NERVES

Must have suitable FOOD to enable them to perform properly their important functions, and as all MED-ICINES have proved lamentably inadequate to the demands of those overtaxed and delicate little organs, —well known to be the life-springs of all vital action,—which ern all portions organisms, lasting in its spasmodic forded by the COMPOUNDS and necessarily followed by a commensurate reaction—something else, I claim, in fact an actual

FOOD IS DEMANDED,

in order that the nerves may receive their share of nourishment with the other members, and the equilibrium of the whole system thus be restored."

CAREFUL EXPERIMENTATION and profound research have at last been rewarded by the discovery of this truly

Wonderful Food for the Nerves,

which contains, in addition to the valuable vegetable tonics and regulatives, the laxative and soothing properties of a famous MINERAL SPRING water found in this vicinity; also the

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which last, we believe, has not been compounded with any other like preparation in the market.

While all other compounds in the market rely on stimulants exclusively, being vegetable, ours exerts the regulative influence of the NATURAL SPRING WATER, and All others rely on stimulation only, which at best is but temporary in its action, and is always followed by a correspondingly depressing reaction; but thus giving our product a right full claim to the title of a FOOD for the System by the influence of the vegetable tonics, renders this effect constant and enduring by the strengthening properties of the Beef, which adds actual nourishment and sustenance,

Our FOOD, at the same time that it tones up the system by the influence of the vegetable tonics, renders this effect constant and enduring by the strengthening properties of the Beef, which adds actual nourishment and sustenance, acre; but the regular, faithful and persistent use for a few weeks will be attended with BENEFICIAL RESULTS, and the continued use will effect a PERMANENT CURE, by removing the deep-seated cause of disease.

PERMANENT CURE.

by removing the deep-seated cause of disease.

THE BRAIN.

Besides serving as the THRONE OF REASON, and the material organ through which the mysterious faculties of the mind work, is the great source and center of all vital animation. Not only is but every motion of our body derives its primal impulse from this source, and even the INVOLUNTARY action of all the vital organs is sustained

and regulated by NERVE FORCE from the Brain. It is not surprising then that exhaustion of the brain by excessive mental exertion should manifest itself in a general debility and weariness of the whole system; and though less apparent, it is equally true, that many diseases supposed to be purely local have their origin in an unhealthy condition of the brain and spinal cord brought about by physical excesses. This is due to the fact that the brain, when in a debilitated or exhausted condition from various causes, is unable to supply the necessary resulting in what appears to be a local disorder. And it has been found by practical experience that even very many of the worst cases of

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Vital

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Has Slavery to Fashion or Over-Indulgence in Social Gaities, or the burdent and worriments of motherhood exhausted your strength, bringing on nervous prostration and left you the mere shadow of your former self, or has some CONGENITAL INFIRMITY rendered your life miserable from its beganning, and blasted your hope of posterity?

Are you troubled with _ 'elessness, Weakness, Dizziness or Lassitude?

Do you lack Firmness, or have Insunicient Strength, Palpitation of the Heart, Aching Loins or Rheumatism?

Was Scrotnic or a Frackly Livermole Skin given

Palpitation of the Heart, Aching Loins or Rheumstism?
Was Scrofula, or a Freckly Liver-mole Skin given you as a birthright?
Then OUR FOOD IS DEMANDED in your case, as it is for Neuralgia, Defect of Taste, Smell or Hearing, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Constipation, Backache, General Debility, Consumption, and all kindred complaints.

BE ASSURED

BE ASSURED

That health is still within your reach, and you may again resume the duties and joys of life by building up and restoring your famished and depleted Nerve Power, by the use of our FOOD. Feed your impov. ished and HUNGRY NERVES with the rich nourishment contained in our highly concentrated food, as thousands before you have done, which our many testimonials will abundantly prove.

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BY JOHN

Behold the Tattleback Tea Table Club only two months old and installed snugly in its own quarters in a pleasant four-roomed frame building! Comfortably carpeted, even if the pieces with which the floors were covered did come from a great many sources, and failed to match each other in color, pattern or texture. Snugly furnished, though the furniture was neither handsome nor harmonious, and would not strike the average beholder as being calculated to endure much further wear.

For both carpets and furniture had been contributed in sections from the goods and chattels of various members, so it was little cause for wonder that the chief characteristic of both was an extensive variety of styles and shapes. It did seem too, as if a few more legs to some of the tables and chairs would have materially lessened their chances of falling to pieces unexpectedly.

The front, or reception room, was neatly papered,

"That's one on you Dorotny," winspered maris.
"It's no use trying to mince matters. We were all fairly caught in our own trap and may just as well try to make the best of it."

"Has any member a proposition to make?" asked the subject.
The attenuated form of Martha Jagger here rose and advanced to the table with solemn steps and slow.

"It has occurred to me, Mrs. President and fellowmembers," drawled Martha, in a tired kind of voice. "It has occurred to me that the various propositions advanced and passed at our last meeting were of a man and the mind. Plano-playing comin a girl's fingers than her mind. Plano-playing comin a girl's fingers than the mind. Plano-playing comin a girl's fingers than younger members, rather than be solicitous for their ability to fry onions without burning, or sew a back button on a shirt. These things come natural to a woman anyhow, but if our aim is to place ourselves on a level with the men-as Miss Wing poetically extended the planon of the planon

more legs to some of the tables and chairs would have materially lessened their chances of falling to pieces unexpectedly.

The front, or reception room, was neatly papered, and Miss Wing had decorated the walls with numerous printed mottoes which were more or less appropriate to the principles of the club. "God bless our club," "We don't intend to get left on our rights," "Wage the war against whiskey," "In unity there is strength," and other equally terse sentences surrounded the visitor on every side.

The inner room was a longer and wider apartment and devoted to meetings pure and simply. With the exception of half a dozen rheumatic looking chairs, the seating accommodation was confined to ordinary school forms, which had been 1 "hased cheap through the kind offices of Miss W.ng. Two very long and narrow tables ran down the centre of the room, and the books were kept in a locked cupboard in one corner. A flight of wooden steps rose at one side of the room to the upper story which consisted of a committee or class chamber, also library and reading-room, and the supper room, the latter being of the same dimensions as the apartment below. There was no attempt whatever at splendor or display, yet everything evidenced a desire for comfort. This was further evinced by the fact that two or three copies of Comport were to be found in the library.

The Rev. Samuel Meek, having cordially espoused the club's cause, had benevolently given Bridget permission to absent herself from her duties at the parsonage on meeting days, so that she might prepare the rooms for the members, get in provisions, make tea and coffee, and set forth the viands on the side-boards to best advantage. Hence Bridget was now regarded in the light of a caterer and due respect and deference was paid her by many members on that account.

On the first meeting night at the new quarters she was particularly busy for some hours previous to the arrival of her guests and had prepared



A TABLE OF CONTENTS

well calculated to delight even an epicure. It fairly grouned with fruit, cakes and sandwiches, the latter having been sent up expressly by the Rev. Sam. Meck.

well calculated to delight even an epicure. It fairly groaned with fruit, cakes and sandwiches, the latter having been sent up expressly by the Rev. Sam. Mock.

Many and flattering were the comments passed upon the new club house as the members dropped in during the evening, and Mrs. Traggle was highly complimented upon fer admirable suggestion at the last meeting that the club should rent the rooms.

When Mrs. Cripps rapped her brand new gavel, which she had ingeniously constructed herself from the handle of an old corkserew in order to save her knuckles, there were fully a hundred members present of the total list of 113. After congratulating the members on their happy acquisition of the building and the extremely satisfactory condition of the club's affairs, Dorothy called upon the secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting, which being done, the treasurer was asked to report on finances.

Mrs. Jones thereupon rose, and taking a rather soiled plece of brown paper from her pocket-book read the following financial statement:

"The receipts for the past month have been \$16.40, representing the paid up dues of eighty-two members. I regret to say that twenty-four ladies are in arrears, and I will have to mention their names at the next meeting unless the dues are then paid. The expenditure has been \$14.70 in sums as follow: Rent, \$5: painting name of club on two windows, \$2; tea and coffee, \$1.75; candles and oil, 35 cents; sugar, 40 cents; butter, 50 cents; cakes, crackers and ginger snaps, \$1.90; sarsaparilla, ginger ale and soda water. \$1.40; milk, 20 cents; fruit, \$1; stationery, 20 estitotal, \$14.70. This leaves a cash balance of \$1.70; but I hope a good many ladies will see fit to pay their dues to-night, as we want to buy some curtains for the front room windows!"

Before Selina Jones had quite ceased speaking there was a movement in her direction by many of the last arriving members, and it took Selina quite twenty minutes to take in cash and give out receipts She then reported that all but four me

were twenty usual stand it."
"It's a downright shame!" ejaculated Mrs. Pullet,
"and the delinquents ought to be exposed."
"Read out the names of the four members who
have not paid!" repeated Dorothy striving to hide

have not paid!" repeated Dorothy striving to hide her wrath.
"Do you really wish me to, Mrs. President?" asked Selina, as she compared her memoranda with the book of membership.
"Most certainly, let us know their names at once!" reiterated Mrs. Cripps.
"Well, the only four who haven't paid their dues yet are Dorothy Cripps, Maria Pullet, Elizabeth Wing and—myself!"
"Oh bless me! haven't I paid? Why I had entirely forgotten it," said Dorothy, blushing a fiery red, and hervously feeling for her pocket-book.
"How could I have overlooked such a thing!" 2015 ped Mrs. Pullet in a hasty, breathless kind of way, as she passed over two dimes.
"I was really under the impression that I had paid tou," remarked Miss Wing to the secretary, in an astonished tone of voice, "but I suppose I must have been too busy to remember it."
"Well, I'm sure I never thought of it myself," exclaimed Selina. "I was so busily engaged looking after other people's money, that I forgot all about my own."
"Quite patural, my dear," said Dorothy suavely. "How could I have overlooked such a thing:"
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"Well, I'm sure I never thought of it myself," exclaimed Selina. "I was so busily engaged looking after other people's money, that I forgot all about my own,"
"Quite natural, my dear," said Dorothy suavely.
"Easiest thing in the world," murmured Maria Pullet,
"Oh isn't it just too funny for anything?" cried Miss Wing, "We all insisted on having our own names called out as delinquents!"
"It is not very funny Elizabeth." whispered Mrs.

primary essentials in a woman's accomplishments, and she even regarded the ability to cook and sew nicely as far more important than a glib tongue and ready wit. But most, if not all, of the young members of the club, could learn a great deal about culinary matters at home, and the club had already made provision for the cetablishment of classes to perfect their knowledge in domestic matters. That being the case, Miss Wing could not see that a debating class for those who wished to join would be out of order and she believed that the President would agree with her that possibly Mrs. Jagger's remarks had been a little misconstrued. She was sure that no member was more desirous of having women true women than Martha Jagger, and for that reason she heartily approved of her resolution and begged to second it. (Resolution put to the vote and carried by 85 to 16.)

Just as Dorothy declared the meeting at an end, Bridget's face appeared in a halo of perspiration at the foot of the stairs, and she announced with very evident satisfaction and pride that "the tay an' coffee was all poured out and iverything was ready." It was noticeable then how few of the members seemed to take any lingering interest in the evening's proceedings, and in a remarkably short space of time the meeting room was deserted for the refectory above. And then arose a great battle to see whether crockery ware or tongues could clatter the most, but the odds were heavy against the plates and dishes, and soon they relapsed into silence, while the news of the village passed around briskly. Everybody expressed their entire satisfaction at the arrangements for refresehments, and the food provided. Mrs. Pullet proposed and Mrs. Rufenstein seconded a vote of thanks to the Rev. Sam. Meek for his generosity and foresight, as endorsed in his liberal donation of sandwiches, and Bridget was solemnly charged to convey said thanks personally to the pastor.

But when Mrs. Traggle, and the President, and Miss Wing, and a half dozen others began to eulogize Bridget

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I wish you well
I won't be a nun
Jim along Josey
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Johnnie Cope
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B Chevalier's lament Clare de kitchen Coal black rose Colleen Bawn Come back to Erin Come back to Erit Concealment Darby the blast Dearest Mae Dearest Mae Departed days Dermot Astore Ding, dong, bell Don't come late Dream is past Everal the Everal the Everal the Everal the Everal the Fairy tempter Farewell indies Farmer's boy Finigan's wake Flee as a bird Flying trapeze Garbaldi nyom Ginger's wedding Girls and boys Give a kiss to me Green sleeves Gumbo ehaff Ilail Columbia Happy thought

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Robinson Crusoe Castes in the air Charlis (Castes in the air Cha HIO-IAN

MORSE & CO. Augusta Maine. CENTS

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DOROTHY MADE A GREAT HIT

2

PACES

To us my young friends comes this most beautiful of all months. November. The one fullest of lessons for us here, as well as hereafter. Can one of us look out of our windows this charming weather and not offers silent word in praise of the all-wise Deity who forms these wonderful seasons and makes these grand changes in such a quiet mysterious way? July with its heat and outdoor work for some. Its vacations and ramblings for others, was full of pleasure for all, for in all this we looked forward to the gathering of the harvests and the happy meetings in August, when all had resurned from their wanderings and were full of assections and reminiscence gleaned during their absence. Then came charming Septem of the well dried grain, and the makes him of the well dried grain, and the makes him of the well dried grain, and the makes him of the well dried grain, and the makes and the first fairy touches of Jack Frost called to mind the change of summer into fall and the beautiful green drapery of nature was dyed by some unseen force into the many varied hases so much loved by us all, especially in local ties where the evergreens abound is this work of nature more fully and deeply contrasted, the crimson, the gold, and the green harmonizing to such an extent as to appear to be the prismatic effect of the bright sun upon the straggling rain drops, as we see them when our God given how of promise is brought out on the clouds. How I wish I could picture the magnificent view from my window this November morning, so that all of you could in a measure enjoy it with me. Your old uncle's home being on a hill on the east bank of the superbly beautiful Keunebec river. commanding a full view of its many window this November morning, so that all of you could in a measure enjoy it with me. Your old uncle's home being on a hill on the east bank of the superbly beautiful Keunebec river. commanding a full view of its many window this November morning, so that all of you could in a measure enjoy it with me. Your old uncle's home being o

IC

I have had may responses to the letter correcting contest and while some few are not as good as I think the different writers could have made them, all show a desire to carry on this very interesting work, and I have decided not to give the letters to the Judges until about the 3d of November, thereby getting all letters which should come into the contest although written on the last day of October, hence their decision will not appear until the December number. Will you all join hands with me now on a new trial of your skill as letter writers? In the first trial I furnished the subject, in the second the whole letter for you to correct and now I am going to offer a beautiful cloth bound, gilt embossed book, giving a full history of the "Lives of our Presidents" from Washington to the present day, for the best written and composed letter received by me before January 1st. 1892, giving me a minute and full description of how the writer would entertain at his own home a party of a dozen young ladies and gentlemen for two hours, between the ages of 1st and 20 years. And in the January number of Comport will give sketches from one letter from each locality, North, South, East and West, thus by the enormous circulation of Comfort, giving all an opportunity of learning much regarding the manners and customs of our friends in the different sections of our great republic.

I will be pleased to hear from thousands of interest and constructions. I have had many responses to the letter cor-ecting contest and while some few are not as

friends in the different section.

Tepublic.

I will be pleased to hear from thousands of my young friends and thus become more intimately acquainted with you, and you will become in a measure better friends with each other. Enter these contests with an earnest

desire to gain the prize and the labor will be one of lasting benefit to you. All contestants must be subscribers to Comfort and under 20 years of age. And as of course a few will receive sample copies and read the above with interest I advise them to at once send the publishers twenty-five cents, the price of a year's subscription and enter the list, as new features are constantly being added to Comfort, and I am sure it is destined to be the leading family paper in the United States.

I have a letter from one young man who has

am sure it is destined to be the leading family paper in the United States.

I have a letter from one young man who has lost his courage as he terms it. His father is dead and he and his mother are left to fight life's battle alone. He is fourteen years old and does not know what to do.

Well, in the first place dear boy make a resolution. Don't waver. I know you are young, and everything looks dark, but be brave and you will surely win. I know you have a good mother, then why not look upon that as the best gift possible to be received from the hand of God. Tell her all your troubles and in the fullness of her heart you will be her first care. Work hard at whatever is given you to do. Be always obedient and mannerly towards your superiors, gentlemanly and courteous with your equals, and never overbearing to your inferiors, thus giving all with whom you come in contact, a cause to love and respect you. Take all things as they come in life bravely and strongly; if uncertainities come into it meet them with quiet courage and good cheer. Above all, keep heart and hand in your work and trust your future to that Divine Providence which has ordered the falling of every sparrow, and I feel sure you will make a worthy man.

Harry C. D., Metuchen, N. J.

Will you allow me to give you a short lecture

every sparrow, and I feel sure you will make a worthy man.

Harry C. D., Metuchen, N. J.

Will you allow me to give you a short lecture on street manners? as I judge by your letter that yours are not the best.

The crusade against bad manners has taken such a hold of the public mind, that an infringement of good manners causes a self-conscious look on the face of every offender, unless he has lost the power of sensation except on the brute side. In Philadelphia a street railway company has prohibited spitting in its cars, and this innovation might well be followed by many other corporations the country over. Never speak to a lady friend on the street without raising your hat or cap gracefully, if you smoke never allow your cigar or pipe to remain in your mouth when you meet a lady, whether she be an acquaintance or not. Never allow yourself to walk behind one or more ladies on the street if you have room to pass them, in crossing a muddy street if you meet a lady give her the most and best of the crossing, even if you get your boots muddy by so doing, and if any of you want a few more hints on this matter write me enclosing stamp and I will give you a private letter in return.

Mary A. D., Omaha, Neb.

General Jno. C. Fremont died in New York

and I will give you a private letter in return.

Mary A. D., Omaha, Neb.

General Jno. C. Fremont died in New York
City, Sunday, July 13th, 1890. He was a man of
indefatigable energy, and of strong personal
magnetism, although too independent to work
well as a subordinate. The name "Pathfinder"
was given him when but thirty years old, in
honor of his remarkable discoveries and explorations in the Rocky Mountains, which were
carried on amid the severest hardships. He
was appointed Governor of California by Conmodore Stockton, and for accepting the office
he was court-martialed. Though pardoned by
the President he refused to retain his commission.

Florence N., Ruatan, C. A.

mission.

Florence N., Ruatan. C. A.

There was finished I believe in 1890 a new acqueduct to carry water into New York City with a capacity of 300,000,000 gallons daily in addition to the Croton acqueduct which has been in use for several years. The cost of the new structure was nearly \$25,000,000.

Answering F. D. L. and several others I will give my reckoning on the matter which is the subject of their trouble. The year One was the first year of the first century, the year 100 was the hundredth and last year of the first century, the year 101 was the first year of the second century, the year 120 was the first year of the second century, so the year 1801 was the first year of the 19th century, and the year 1900 will be the last year of this century, and the year 1901 will be the first year of the 20th century.

Harold J. K., Memphis, Tenn.

Harold J. K., Memphis, Tenn.
My first words of advice to you regarding your change in business is this, do not change unless you are going to materially better yourself. Keep the old position if you are doing well, and the firm is on a solid foundation. I have watched the career of many young men in my life and I find the chief difference between the successful and the failures lies in the single element of staying power. A few more dollars for a short time will not balance a permanent salary although it may not be a large one.

The new version of the old adage "Never put

salary although it may not be a large one.

The new version of the old adage "Never put off till to-morrow that which can be done to-day" is "Never do to-day that which can be put off till to-morrow," and I am sorry to say that one of my young friends has written me asking if I do not think it is an improvement over the old. Most emphatically No, especially in the case of a disagreeable thing which must be done. If you refuse to do it entirely, it is not so bad as to procrastinate, and to keep putting it off will cause it to haunt you until it is done. It is always the shortest cut, to push right through anything which we are dreading, and remember that it is only the shirks and put-offs in this world who are discontented.

In conclusion I want to thank all who have

In conclusion I want to thank all who have written me since our last meeting, for their letters and kind words, and I trust I shall make the acquaintance of many more of you before the Christmas number comes out. Do not be bashful, but enter the letter contests and become acquainted with Your UNCLE JOSEPHUS, (Care of COMFORT.)

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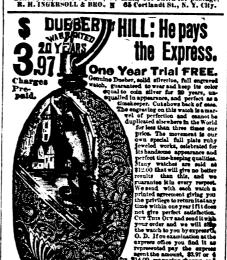
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A WESTERN ELAINE.

The Story of a Girl's Broken Heart.

BY CLAY M. GREENE.

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CHAPTER I.

"What yer readin', Mister?"

I looked up from my book and glared at the intruder, but the momentary expression of displeasure was soon softened into one of interest. For the person who had interrupted my solitary hour with Tennyson, commended himself to me at once, as being one of those strange specimens of humanity, who, to the student of human nature might become an interesting subject of analysis. Almost everyone imagines himself to be a reader of faces, and I am no exception.

He was not altogether a stranger to me, for I had seen him but a few moments before paddling on the river at the foot of the bluff on the edge of which I sat. But when the strange craft that carried him—a primitive dug-out, fashioned from the trunk of a pine tree—had glided-into the shadows of the stunted cypresses that lined the river's edge, both the boat and its solitary occupant passed out of my mind. Now a new interest was awakened, and for a moment I studied him closely, without replying to his abrupt, if not impertinent query.

He was a man of apparently forty-five years of age; his figure tall and erect, and a mass of iron gray hair fell from under his sombrero in a tangled mass about his shoulders. His face was almost hidden by a busby growth of beard, and his piercing eyes, gray and sad, seemed to reflect a heart that had borne its weight of care. His dress was totally different from that of the men I had noticed about Monterey, for he was dressed in soiled buckskin from head to foot, and I became impressed with the idea that I had at last met with one of those strange ideals of the sensational western novelist.

As I drew this momentary mental photograph of him, he repeated the question that had first broken my reverie:

"Went yer readin'?"

"Tennyson."

"Tennyson is the poet laureate of England, and one of the most graceful writers of the day.

"Wennyson is the poet laureate of England, and one of the most graceful writers of the day. The story I am reading is that of Elaine, a strange sad tale of disappointed love."
"Tell us about it, won't yer, Mister?"



THE OLD MAN ROSE TO A SITTING POSTURE

In as few words as possible I recounted the touching experiences of this misguided heroine, from her first meeting with Launcelot to the place where, in the words of the poet:

"——the dead.

Steered by the dumb, went upward with the flood."

flood."
"My God!"
I looked up in surprise. The sad white face had in a second undergone a startling metamorphosis. The cheeks were flushed, the cold gray eyes flashed with anger, and the lips

had in a second undergone a startling metamorphosis. The cheeks were flushed, the cold gray eyes flashed with anger, and the lips quivered with excitement.

"What is the matter?" I asked.

"Mister, wher did Tennyson git that story?"
I cannot say, but it is probably a child of his own fancy, a bit of poetic romance."

"No t'aint Mister, no t'aint! That ere story's as true as the blue o' them skies; true as the wind that's a sighin' above them pines now; true as the roar o' them breakers on the rocks at Cypress Point. Fur it happened right ther on the bend o' the river, whar yer see that old adobe; and the bells as that book says tolled fur her death wasn't rung in England, but over at the foot o' the hills thar, from the towers o' the Mission Church."

"You have awakened a strange interest in me, my friend; won't you sit down?"

He sat upon the fragrant cushion of pine needles beside me, and cast a long wistful, tearful glance at the book I held in my hand.

"What did you mean when you told me that story was true?" I asked.

"Jest what I said, Mister. Elaine was my gal Phæbe, Launcelot was a feller from 'Frisconnemed Roberts, and—what did you say the queen's name was?"

"Guinevere."

"Wall, she was a grand lady visiting at the Hotel Del Monte. And, Mister, the Lord of

Astolat was me.

'Do you mind telling me the story in your

"Do you mind telling me the story in your own way?"

There was no reply; for the stranger threw himself upon his face, his gaunt frame quivered with emotion, and sob after sob stirred the silence of the pines. I had bent forward in the hope that the touch of a friendly hand might staunch the flow of grief, when I heard the tramp of heavy feet, and a new comer appeared upon the scene, knelt beside the old man, and spoke to him eagerly in Spanish.

"Que Tienes, Capitano?"

The new comer was one of the few remaining types of the California Mission Indian. Rather short of stature, with a skin dark almost as that of a negro; a heavy growth of wiry, black hair straggled down his shoulders to the back and, to use a modern phrase, was "banged" low upon his forehead. He wore a pair of very ragged military trousers, with a fiaring red shirt; and although the thermometer that afternoon must have registered 80 degrees Fahr., a heavy gray blanket was thrown about him. Receiving no reply to his earnest appeal, he leaned closer to the prostrate form of the "Capitano" and repeated it with even more emphasis than at first. The old man rose to a sitting posture, took hold of the Indian's wrist with a convulsive clasp, and spoke to him in his own tongue.

"Sancho, fel me ha dicho la historia de mi hija

with a convulsive class, his own tongue.

"Sancho, fel me ha dicho la historia de mi hija perdida!" (Sancho, he has told me the story of my lost daughter!)

"Como?" (How?) asked the Indian in aston-

ishment.

Then with bated breath, and a tremulous voice, the old man repeated to Sancho what I

THAR SHE IS NOW, IN HER OLD SEAT.

concluded must be a Spanish version of the same story I had told him. What a sight were those two faces as I eagerly listened to the recital in a tongue I could not understand! The old man's voice was tremulous and faltering, and he stopped now and then to brush away the hot tears from his bronzed cheek. Sancho, true to the instincts of his race, remained stolid and apparently indifferent; but from the depths of his piercing black eyes, there seemed to flash an expression of bitter hatred, and when he had heard all, he glared at the book in my hand as though it were some enemy he wished to destroy.

"You don't understand Spanish, Mister?"

On my negative reply, he continued:

"You don't understand Spanish, Mister?"
On my negative reply, he continued:
"And he don't speak no English," pointing to
the Indian. "But I wanted him to know, and
now I'll tell yer the whole thing jest as it happened, and then you kin see it's the self-same
story as is printed into that ere book. But
hold onl" and he pointed to the distant hills.
"See that house on the hill yonder?"
"Yes."
"See where the settin' sun shinin' on the

"See where the settin' sun shinin' on the winders makes it look like a light?"

"Yes."

"See where the settin' sun shinin' on the winders makes it look like a light?"

"Yes."

"Well that ere's my clock. I stand on this very spot every day jest at sunset, and that glitter warns me it's time to go home, to the old woman wot's waitin' fur me over yonder in the old adobe. So I'll have to quit yer now, but I'll tell yer the story to-morrow."

"I shall not be here then," I replied; "for urgent business will call me to the city. But I am deeply interested in the strange co-incidence you have mentioned, and should like to hear it through."

"Would yer mind comin' home with me then, and havin' a bite o' supper with me and the old woman?"

"Come on then, and we've got to hurry or she'll be a worryin'."

With a nod to Sancho, he led the way toward the river. Not a word was spoken as we silently trod the circuitous trail down the cliff, and, arriving at the water's edge, the old man pointed to the boat, and I took my place in the bow. He seated himself amidships, and the Indian, with a dexterous movement, pushed the boat into the stream, took his place in the stern, and, paddle in hand, pointed her prow toward the bend in the river which the old man had spoken of. It was a weird, almost fantastic picture. The setting sun just disappearing behind the western sea, casting long shadows from the pines upon the placid surface of the water; the rudely constructed boat, with its three strangely contrasted occupants, gliding along noiselessly through the twilight.

The silence was almost painful; not even the dip of the paddle in the water, nor the ripples in our wake giving forth the faintest sound. The old man, his hands clasped about his knees. kept his eyes fastened upon the cliff we had just left, and his entire bearing was one of utter obliviousness to his surroundings. The silence Finding myself almost dropping into the belief that I must have fallen asleep among the pines on the cliff, and that this uncanny voyage

mechanical way; while his face bore the same stolid, malignant expression I had noticed before.

Finding myself almost dropping into the belief that I must have fallen asleep among the pines on the cliff, and that this uncanny voyage in the mysterious dug-out must be some strange dream, I satisfied myself as to its reality by breaking the silence:

"My friend, you have not told me your name."

"Call me Thompson—that'll do."

"Have you lived in this neighborhood long?"

"Yes."

"How long?"

"I'll tell yer by and by."

His replies to my interrogatories were given in a listless, indifferent manner, which obviously betokened a repugnance to conversation, for the time being, at least, so I permitted silence to reign again.

For the next twenty minutes we glided noise-lessly through the gathering shadows, when the boat's prow was turned toward the shore and with a sigh of relief, and a pang of satisfaction, I became aware that we had reached the objective point of our journey. Sancho stepped into the shallow water and pushed the boat high up on the shore, and unbidden by my new friend Thompson, I rose from my position in the bow and stepped out upon the land. Sancho, quite indifferent to our presence, sat upon the boat, rested his chin in the palms of his hands, and looked out toward the setting sun. Thompson turned to me and spoke:

"We'll go in the house now, Mister, and I want to tell you this one thing. I wouldn't a brought yer hyer, only't you don't know Spanish and I'd be afraid we might get to talkin'

want to tell you this one thing. I wouldn't a brought yer hyer, only't you don't know Spanish and I'd be afraid we might get to talkin' about our trouble. That's somethin' I aint mentioned to the old woman sence it happened, 'cause I feel that the least suddint start'd break her old heart. I guess you'll hafter tell me yer name, 'cause the old woman'll want to be introduced. Ear although we're present the duced. For although we're poorer'n them crows over on the beach thar, she's got some o' them high-falutin' ideas she picked up among the proud old Mexicans afore Premont took Californy."

"Wall, Mister Browning," I replied.
"Wall, Mister Browning, jest foller me."
I did so in silence. In a few moments we reached the summit of the little bluff on which the old adobe stood. Neatness reigned everywhere, and I breathed the balmy atmosphere of a thousand flowers. Lillies, roses, hollyhocks, heliotrope and mignonette grew all about me in luxurious abundance, and the white-washed walls of the old adobe were almost covered with a golden mass of nasturtium vines.

almost covered with a golden mass of nasturtium vines.
"Mister Browning, this ere little garden o' mine's my only care now, and I spend most all my time among them beds a beautifyn' on 'em, and a makin' on 'em jest as bright 'n pleasant es I kin fur her sake. For its beautiful things thet softens the solitude uv a lonely heart. And the only beautiful things I kin give to her now is them flowers, nursed inter life by me, and painted by the hand o' God. Thar she is now, in her old seat."

wave of his hand, I beheld a dark-skinned, white-haired woman dressed in black. She had been seated upon a rustic bench in a small arbor, formed by an ingeniously interwoven mass of heliotrope bushes, but rose at our approach, and advanced to meet us. My introduction to her was brief, but evidently served its purpose, for with a stately bow, which one would hardly have expected from the wife of the uncouth Thompson, she pleasantly and quietly shook my hand.

"We will go in now, Mister," said Thompson, "supper is ready."

On entering the living room of the house, I was struck by the cleanliness and simplicity of my surroundings. Save for the rafters overhead, which seemed to have been discolored by the accumulated dust of years, everything was neatness itself. The newly white-washed walls, the well scoured floor, and the neat wooden furniture told their own story. My hostess was an excellent housewife. With a graceful movement of her right hand, and a bow that was almost regal, she motioned me to a seat at the table.

CHAPTER II.

The meal was eaten almost in silence, and at its close my hostess bade me good night in Spanish, and left the room.

"She's a gittin' pretty old," explained Thompson, "and always goes to bed right after supper. She's asked me to tell yer this, so yer won't think she aint been brought up right. And now I'll tell yer that story, and ez its a lectle cold to-night, we'd best sit close to the fire. Smoke?"

I took the pipe he offered me, and together

shor, "and aways gover this, so yer won't think she aint been brought up right. And now I'll tell yer that story, and ez its a lectle cold to-night, we'd best sit close to the fire. Smoke?"

I took the pipe he offered me, and together we sat by the open fireplace, in the glare of its crackling logs of pine.

"I come to Californy in '49'long with Fremont. When the war wus over, and they declared peace we wus all ordered home. But I'd met my fust love by that time, and as she'd promised to marry me, and wanted me to stay, I got my discharge from the Colonel and settled down in Monterey. This sweetheart o' mine wus a heap better'n wot I wus, for her father was the Alcalde, and I only a sergeant in Fremont's regiment. But we soon fixed the matter up by havin' 'em call me 'Capitano' (which means Captain, you know) and that made things sound better, even if they wasn't.

"Wall, we wus married by old Father Sebiano, at the Mission Church, and I moved over her and went to ranchin'. We wus happy enough in our young days, and our lives passed along jest as smooth and as calm as that river out yonder in the moonlight. But no matter how happy a couple may be, no matter how happy a couple may be, no matter how deep their love, I tell yer, Misterr, there's one thing that's always a cloud in the happiest home, and the bells o' the Mission when you've struck the shady side o' life.

"Fifteen years we lived under this cloud, and, at last, one Christmas mornin', when the birds wus a singin' in the vines outside our door and the bells o' the Mission were pealin' out their welcome for the birthday o' Christ, our little one came to us. I took the little speck o' nature in my arms for the first time, an' kissed her little puckerin' lips, and baptized her with hot tears o' joy, namin' her 'Phoebe,' after my mother.

"Sixteen years went by then, so quick we couldn't count 'em. Sixteen years o' peace, and quiet, and the sea bathin', and hear the music, and, o' course, Phœbe went too. She come home one night to us, with a look on her fa

till I could see her and had out the first truth.

"Wall, that truth come almost with the first streaks o' dawn, fur when I got up she was a sittin' thar on the door-step. I found that she was no longer a child—that her first infatuation wus one o' the kind as creep inter a woman's heart to stay thar forever.



SHE SAT DOWN ON MY KNEE AND TOLD ME SHE WAS IN LOVE.

"She told me the man's name-Harry Roberts "She told me the man's name—Harry Roberts it was—and she said she'd been a meetin' him 'most every day for a week. He'd come up to her as she wus a settin' alone on the beach, and introduced hisself, and that's how they become acquainted. I didn't say nothin' to nobody as to wot I intended to do, but as soon as we'd ett breakfast, I hitched up and went over to the Hotel to see the man whose handsome face and meetty words had brought the first cloud to our

fireside. And he was jest the kind uv of a man, Mister Browning, thet might win the heart uv any woman, for I tell yer, even with that great big load on my heart, he 'most wom me. He was sorry, he said, that what he called 'a chance flirtation' should a been took so serious, and if thar wus anything he could do to make Phœbe tear him out uv her heart, he'd act at once. I thanked him, and when I said good-bye, thar wus a kind o' honest grasp in his hand wot told me he meant to do the right thing by my little 'un.

thanked him, and when I said good-bye, that was a kind o' honest grasp in his hand wot told me he meant to do the right thing by my little 'un.

"I got acquainted with some people, and they told me this man Roberts had got hisself talked about, on account of bein' too intimate with a married lady from 'Prisco named Clavering. I told this to Phœbe that night, but she received it ez calm and indifferent like ez if I'd told. her some bit o' everyday news; for she didn't believe a word uv it. With her, to love was to trust, and she trusted him with all her heart. Roberts didn't come over that day as he promised, nor the next, nor the next. And pretty soon we heard thar wus to be a picnic party over on the bluff, wher we met this evenin'.

"For the fust time in her life, our little gal deceived us. She told us she wus goin' down to the river to read; but it wasn't long afore we saw her in the boat out in the stream, with Sancho a paddlin' uv her over to the Point. It was two hours afore she come back, and when she did, her eyes had a wild look in em, and her face wus pale ez death. She throwed herself on the sofa thar, and cried ez ef her heart would break. Me and the old woman done our best to comfort her, but it warn't no use, and between her sobs she told us that what I'd heerd about the man she loved was true. She'd been over to the Point, and crept up to em unbeknownst, and seen Roberts and Mrs. Clavering together. She heerd him speak words o' love to her, heerd him say that ez he could never marry her, he never would any one else.

"The little one wus sick arter that with brain fever, for 'most two weeks, and all the time ther wus but one word she spoke, in her ravings or out uv them: 'Harry! Harry! Harry! The doctor told us that onless somethin' was done to drive this man out uv her mind, she'd waste away and die; so I went to the Hotel again.

"Roberts wus glad to see me, and said the reason he hadn't come over to the house wus

ings or out uv them: 'Harry! Harry! Harry!' The doctor told us that onless somethin' was done to drive this man out uv her mind, she'd waste away and die; so I went to the Hotel again.

"Roberts wus glad to see me, and said the reason he hadn't come over to the house wus that he s'posed his indifference might cause Phobe to furgit him. He promised to do something that day to end it all, and he come over in the evenin'. I don't jest know what he said to her, for they wus together in the sick room fur a long time, and I wus a waitin' here to have him tell me the result. He come out by and by with a worried look on his handsome face.

"Mr. Thompson,' he said, 'I'd give my right hand if I could recall the fust thoughtless words I spoke to that little girl. But it's too late now—I can do nothing. Good-bye!"

"And without sayin' another word, he passed from the room and out into the night.

"Phobe growed was, and wus, and wus, from that moment, and for five or six days wus clean out uv her mind. At the end of that time we heerd her a callin' o' us in the same sweet voice we'd been used to afore she was took down with the fever.

"Come to me, Mother ahd Father,' she said, I want to hold yer hands in mine, for it'll be the last time I'll ever do it this side o' the grave. I'm goin' ter die—the blow is too hard—more'n I can bear, more'n I can bear!

"We both tried to cheer her by speakin' words uv hope, but we done it with heavy hearts, Mr. Browning, fur we seen that the hand o' death wus on her even then, that the Dark Angelwae a beckoning to her from the other side.

"When you'd wone they speakin' words uv hope, but we done it with heavy hearts, Mr. Browning, fur we seen that the hand o' death wus on her even then, that the Dark Angelwae a beckoning to her from the other side.

"When you'd done they, that we may hand, and with 'em the note to Harry'. And she took a bit o' folded paper from under her pillow. 'When you'de done this, put me in the boat, take me over to the Point—it was ther I want him to come, and he wil

thet thar book:

'—the dead,
Steered by the dumb, went upward with the flood.'

steered by the dumb, went upward with the flood."

"Only with this one difference, that Sancho aint dumb They buried her over ther under the pines, and our friends said that the saddest of all the mourners gathered ther was Harry Roberts. If you'll go to the Point to-morrow and walk from the place wher I met you this evenin', in a straight line towards Cypress Point, you'll come to a little block o' marble—he put it ther—with but one word on it, 'Phœbe.' "That's all, Mr. Browning, that's all. Sancho has hitched up the team, and'll take yer home, but afore yer go I've got a big favor to ask uv yer, I want yer ter give me that—that little book."

I placed my "Tennyson" in his hand, looked

I placed my "Tennyson" in his hand, looked pityingly upon his tear-stained cheeks, and, with one of those sudden impulses which emanate from souls that are truly human; one of those bursts of sympathy which can only spring from the hearts of those who know, we embraced each other.

Then taking his hands in mine, I pressed them again and again, and with a fervent "God bless you!—good-bye!" passed from that silent house of mourning forever.

Slam Her In .- The story is told of a country editor who had met with an accident. When he recovered consciousness his rival was present and yelled in his ear: "I'm very sorry for you

'You are, eh; what for?"

"They say you've broken your spinal column.
"Confound that boy! He's dropped the form
gain. Fill it with slugs and slam her in."-



My DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:

Once again I have sauntered forth from my old home in "Mystic Land," and after a long journey, am with you at the "Realm of Comfort." And, Oh! what a bright and interested throng there is around me; young folks, middle aged and old folks, all alike joining in the pleasures of "The Mystic Castle." On this side, the juvenile have gathered, bright eyed lads and lassies, on that side some who have journeyed farther along in life, while last but not least, and dear to the heart of Oldcastle, seated directly in front of him, are those whose locks are silvered with the frosts of many winters, but whose hearts are just as young as they used to be.

A cordial greeting I give you all, dear Mystic Friends and hope to meet you often, and an earnest invitation is extended to those who have not joined "Our Mystic Band," to do so at once. Send original puzzles, and solutions to the mysteries below, with your name and address as well as nom de piume signed to each. If you cannot send both solutions and contributions send which you can.

Address all communications concerning: "The Mystic Castle," to Oldcastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y., that old man whom you see pictured above, who journeys each month to the "Realm of Comfort," taking with him a large carpet-bag, filled with the puzzles, solutions and letters received from his Mystic Friends. When a reply to your letters by mail is desired enclose a two-cent stamp.

Attention is called to the "Prize Word Hunt" announcement in this issue. We hope every reader of Comports will become interested and compete for the prizes offered. Be sure to read the "Conditions," carefully.

Numerical No 211 in Sept, "Mystic Castle," should have hear credited in Pull, allegany Park

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Numerical No 211 in Sept, "Mystic Castle," should have been credited to Phil, Alleghany, Pa., but the development of the prize of the prize of the prize of the the cash one who solves six puzzles, but is awarded among all who send that number, in this manner: Each list is given a number and all the numbers placed together, as many being picked out, indiscriminately, as there are special prizes. In the August issue there were two.

Myrtle:—Puzzles are not intricate enough. Try again. With a little practice you will be able to do as well as the rest of them.

Oldenstle was much pleased to see the picture of one of his "Mystic Friends" in "The Young Idea" and to learn that he was the President of the "Puzzler's League" connected with that paper. Congratulations to learn that he was the President of the "Puzzler's League" connected with that paper. Congratulations to learn that he was the President of the "Puzzler's League" connected with that paper. Congratulations to learn that he was the President of the "Puzzler's League" connected with that paper. Congratulations to learn that he was the President of the "Puzzler's League" connected with that paper. Congratulations to rest of "Our Mystic Band."

Contributions have been received from: Wild Bill, Jr., 6; Cowboy, 5; Mrs. C. C. Haskell, Red Rose and Star of the Evening, 4; Frank C., Delian and Maj. 3; Leander, Nelson Forsyth, Is, Aspiro, Danville Solver and Fayn, one each.

One hundred eighteen solvers to August "Mystic Castle"! Glad to see the increased interest in this line of puzzleistic work.

The solvers are as follows: Necro M. Ancer, Delian and W. E. Will, 12; Swiss Liliac, Rosabel, Waldemar, F. M. M. and Ophir, 20; Frank, Uno, J. C. M., Ypsie, Frank, C. Will Walden, P. A. Slim

Hundred ninety, South Carolina
Gives us very good advice,
We'll hold the "fort" and "Comfort" take,
And eat the "cake" that's nice.
We'll toe the cat, and send her out
To seek her proper game,
We'll light the lamp and read the "tome,"
Recalling deeds of fame.

Next comes Alexander
With a proverb very old;
It needs no "salt" 'lis ever "new,"
At "least," so we are told.
"All's well that ends well," is it true?
Wherever we may "dwell"
Hereafter with the spirits in light,
Or evil ones in "hell."

Or evil ones in "hell."

196. D on a t "donate" will spell

18 not, will Black Eyed Charley tell

What does it spell, and thus we show

11 means to give, grant, or bestow.

197. When Lincoln found the Union armies foiled,

He found a "key," 'twas in a "hole" you see,

And millions who in slavery had toiled,

He freed by fitting to "key-hole" the "key."

201. A duck will "quack" and boast, alack, Let "Urban" "cavil" not! The dinner-bell will sound his "knell" "Above" the grave(y) hot.

t. "Once" a maid from Alleghany Found "one," Phil, a fool, a zany; Powring out his cash like water, Worse his fate, if he had bought her

Worse his fate, if he had bought her.

209. I find myself in "error sir;"

I'm covered with "chagrin;"

The "tears" that flow in terror, sir,
Do penance for my sin (e n.)

Hopkinsville, Ky.,

Ere I greet you again at the "Realm of Comfort,"
dear Mystic Friends, you will have gathered around
the festive Thanksgiving board and enjoyed the fruits
which God, in His goodness hath given thee. While
you are thus blessed, dear friends, be not wholly
mindful of self, but think of those who have been
less fortunate than you, and strive to lend a helping
hand to cheer the hearts of these, God's suffering
children.

I must now journey homeward and so bid you a
good-bye till we meet again.

Your dear old Mystic Friend,

PRIZE WORD HUNT.

PRIZE WORD HUNT.

The following prizes will be awarded to the senders of the six largest lists of words, found in the name, "Oldcastle," complying with the conditions given be-

"Oldcastle," complying with the control of low:

1. The "Mammoth" Stamping Outfit.

2. Multum in Parvo Songster.

3. Payne's Business Pointers.

4. One Year's Subscription to Comport.

5. Dime Savings Bank.

6. 100 Complete Stories.

Oldcastle offers as a special prize, a year's subscription to a good story paper, for the best appearing list outside of those winning the above prizes.

Computions. CONDITIONS.

All words found in the main body of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, the supplement included, are allowable.

Unabridged Dictionary, the supplement included, are allowable.

2. Abbreviations, prefixes, suffixes, plurals, proper names, etc., are not allowable.

3. No letter can be used more than once in a word, with the exception of the letter L, which appears twice in Oldcastle.

4. A word can be used but once, no matter how many meanings it may have, but if it has two or more ways of being spelled, they will be credited, if sanctioned by Webster.

5. All lists must be written in ink, words arranged in alphabetical order and numbered.

6. The name and address must be written at the head of the list, and writing must be on one side of the paper, only.

7. In case of ties, lists first received will be given the preference.

Competition closes January 1, 1892. The result will be announced in March "Mystic Castle." Lists received after that date, also lists not complying with the above conditions, will not be acknowledged Any who desire to be notified of the receipt of their lists, will receive a prompt reply if a two-cent stamp is inclosed.

SOLUTIONS TO AUGUST'S "MYSTERIES."

SOLUTIONS TO AUGUST'S "MYSTERIES." SOLUTIONS TO AUGUST'S "MYSTERIES."

No. 190. Take Comfort. No. 191. "All's well that ends well." No. 192. Coplas De Manrique. No. 193. William Cullen Bryant. No. 194. Baltimore, No. 195. Heartease. No. 196. Don at (Donate.) No. 197. Key-hole. No. 198. Star-fish. No. 199. Ratable.

Heartease. No. 198. Star-fish. No. 199. Reaves. No. 200. Feather. No. 201. 1. QUACK. 2. URBAN. 3. ABOVE. 4. CAVIL. 5. KNELL. No. 202. 1. VALET. 2. ADORE. 3. LOVES. 4. ERECT. 5. TESTS. No. 203. Once, One. No. 204. 1. X. 2. Let. 3. Scrap. 4. Xerasia. 5. Taste. 6. Pic. 7. A. No. 205. 1. E. 2. AXE. 3. ALERT. 4. EXERGUE. 5. ERGOT. 6. TUT. 7. E. 6. ERGOT. 6. ERG No. 205. 1. E. 2. AXE. 3. ALERT. 4. EXERGUE. 5. ERGOT. 6. TUT. 7. E. No. 206. 1. H. 2. SAG. 3. SENNA. 4. HANCOCK. 5. GNOME. 6. ACE. 7. K. 5. O. 207. 1. O. 2. URN. 3. UTTER. 4. ORTOLAN. 5. NELLY. 6. RAY. 7. N. JUTTER. 4. ORTOLAN. No. 208. 1. R. 2. LET. 3. LARER. 4. REREDOR. 5. TEDGE. 6. ROE. 7. R. No. 209. 1. C. 2. THE. 3. TEARS. 4. CHAGRIN. 6. EIRROR. 6. SIR. 7. N. No. 210. 1. E. 2. AXE. 3. APACE. 4. EXAMINE. 5. EICYA. 6. ENA. 7. E.

MYSTERIES No. 237. Charade.

No. 237. Charade.

No. 237. Charade.

Which from the east doth burst,
With beauties grand to see.
My second made of wood and stone,
Which civilized men make their home.
A "prime necessity" my whole,
You'll find along the coast;
Where reefs abound you, 'tis true,
You'll find the most.
Downington, Ohio,

VE.

VER HOWELL. No. 238. Charade.

My first was taken from a man Almost before he knew 'twas his; 'Twas changed to perfect loveliness, Then given back to him again.

My second sometimes offers rest, To weary and dejected man; Sometimes 'tis filled with lovely flowers, Which look so beautiful and grand.

My whole means furnished with long thin strips, Of timber or wood, or even bone,
To strengthen things which are so weak,
They'd fall apart, if left alone.
Richmond, Va.,
JOAN OF ARC

Across. 1. Epistles. 2. Trifling talk. 3. Angry. 4. A hard substance. 5. To will to.
Down. 1. A letter. 2. A prefix. 3. A Latin numeral.
4. Parts of the head. 5. A portion of country. 6. A noted university 7. Finale. 8. Dipthong. 9. A letter.

Kansas City, Mo., PHIL O. PENA

No. 240. Oblique Rectangle. I. A letter. 2. A gentleman. 3. A cloak fastened in front with a clasp. 4. A species of pine. 6. A bully. 6. Enrolled soldiers. 7. An altar-screen. 8. Spanish painter, (1551-1528.) 9. To hinge. 10. Cooking utensils, heated by a spirit lamp. 11. Symbols for silver. 12. A letter.

New Castle, Ohio, FRANK.

No. 241. Diamond.

No. 241. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. The outer covering of a chestnut. 3. Peeled. 4. Conflicts. 5. Cut short. 6. To free from ain. 7. To dig. 8. To look. 9. A letter.

Ardmore, Pa.,

No. 242. Diamond.

A letter. 2. A kind of fish. 3. An article of food.
 A large boiler. 5. A beautiful flower. 6. Repairog. 7. Certain fish. 8. A kind of ale. 9. A letter.
 Utica, N. Y.,

No. 243. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. To twist. 3. The leaf of a fern. 4. Composed. 5. A subtility. 6. To excite. 7. To conquer, (obs.) 8. A haunt. 9. A letter.

Newport, N. Y.,

ILEX.

No. 244. Diamond.

1. A letter, 2. To depress the spirits. 3. Gowns.
4. Exaited. 5. Pertaining to the cheek-bone. 6. A pattern of great excellence. 7. A small thread drawn through the skin, by which a small opening is continued. 8. To stun with noise. 9. A letter.

New Chester, Pa.,

CASTRANOVA.

No. 245. Diamond.

No. 245. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A broad, flat boat. 3. A province of India. 4. The Indian cane. 5. A fine wit. 6. Delicate spirits distilled from cherries. 7. Pure oils of turpentine. 8. Certain animals. 9. Perpendiculars. 10. Certain prepositions. 11. A letter.

Bangor, Pa.,

T. HHINKER.

No. 246. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. An exclamation of contempt. 3. Crutches shaped like the letter T. 4. Attacks with a pointed weapon. 5. Natives of a French city. 6. Large, North American trees. 7. Is doubtful as to facts. 8. One who shrinks from his purpose. 9. To utter with grimace. 10. Sees, (obs. Worc. Supp.) 11. NYPHO.

No. 247. Rhomboid. Across. 1. Powerful. 2. Dealers in oil. 3. Figures. 4. To do beyond. 5. Narrow. 6. Longed. Down. I. A letter. 2. A preposition. 3. To free. 4. A dish of stewed meat. 5. A liquor made of wine, water, sugar, nutmeg and lemon juice. 6. Sandy. To gaze at. 8. Blemish. 9. A metal. 10. An abbreviation. 11. A letter.

Waterman, Ill.,

COLUMBIA.

No. 248. Double Acrostic.

No. 248. Double Acrosuc.
(Words of six letters.)

1. A sudden check. 2. A kind of brass made to resemble gold. 3. Northerly. 4. To advise. 5. Resonance. 6. Checkered woolen cloth.
Primals and finals name a noted inventor.
WILD BILL, JE.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

To the senders of the three largest lists of solutions to this month's "Mysterles," the following prizes will be awarded:

1. Webster's Handy Dictionary.

2. A year's subscription to COMPORT.

3. Carl's Treasure Cabinet.

Competition closes Jan. 1, 1892 Solutions, solvers, and prize-winners will appear in February "Mystic Castle."

24 SONGS FOR A CENT.

You will notice an advertisement of a lot of songs (words and music) that Morse & Co. are sending free for 6c. for postage, etc. As they send you over 144 in the collection you get the songs at a better rate than 24 for a cent. It is a wonderful bargain for this month only, as they won't last long you had better writ? to-day. See advertisement. A large publishing house going out of the business.

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Mine are in sets of three, nicely nickel plated, with screws complete and directions for putting up.
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sets 75c. Agents humand. T.M. GANDY, Cedarville, Conn

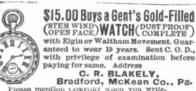
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that which would cost you nearly the price of watch. chain which would cost you nearly the price of watch KIRTLAND BROS. & CO., 62 Fulton St., N. Y.

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years have been
burdened and overrun with remnants
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thousands of pieces
of silk and satin on

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NOTICE: We have an unusually fine assortment of these Remnants on hand just at this present time and can guarantee orders filled the day received.—EDITOR.

BUY THE BEST ALWAYS THE CHEAPEST THIS OUTFIT for It Costs You Nothing \$9.00 to see it. Retail Price \$35.00. Watches have been advertised in every shape and mode, poor and good goods alike. The public, however, is at a loss to got the genuine article or select the right offer without any cash outlay. To surprise every reader, we propose to send to any address in the U.S. one of the well-known

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BLANCHE'S MASQUERADE.

A THANKSGIVING STORY.

"It would be such jolly fun, you really must let me have my own way, Uncle Joshua," said Blanche Leslie coaxingly.

"I don't know what Aunt Hetty'll say to such an arrangement," said farmer Jocelyn, shaking his head.

"Oh, Aunt Hetty always let me have my own way when I was a little tot," Blanche clapped her hands gleefully. "I have a bright idea," she exclaimed, Let Aunt Hetty think that you have found a poor girl who is in need of a good home—she hasn't seen me for seven years so it will be easy enough so far as recognizing me is concerned."

"Well, well, since you are so set on masqueradin' reckon you must have your own way," said Uncle Joshua. "Aunt Hetty's been wantin' help this long spell so she's not likely to ask many questions concerning the 'poor girl,'" he concluded, smiling.

"How delightful to be able to run away from all the liresome people that flock around me because I happen to be—an heiress," murmured Blanche, carefully closing and locking the small trunk that contained the clothing which she had purchased for her "outing."

As the old fashioned carryall containing Uncle

the clothing which and carryall containing Uncle ing."

As the old fashioned carryall containing Uncle Joshua and the "poor girl" neared its destination, the former became somewhat uneasy.

"I'm not sure that Aunt Hetty'll ever forgive me for takin' part in this deceivin' business," he said anytonaly.

for takin' part in this deceivin' business," he said anxiously.

"Don't worry about that, Uncle Joshua," said the plainly dressed girl at his side. "Aunt Hetty knows or will know when the proper time arrives, where to place the blame—there is dear Aunt Hetty at the front gate—now mind, Uncle Joshua, you must say that my name is Sarah and—"

"Well, I declare, Joshua, I thought that somethin' had surely happened. You're full an hour later than usual," said Aunt Hetty as the carryall stopped before the gate. "Dear me, I really believe that you've brought someone to help me along with the work," she said peering into the carryall.

"Yes, a poor girl in need of a home asked me to—to—"

"Yes, a poor girl in need of a home asked me to—to—"
"Yes, a poor girl in need of a home asked me to—to—"
"Let her do the work for us during the summer,"
prompted Blanche.
"To be sure—she'll work for her board and clothes,"
stammered Uncle Joshua.
"Poor creature!" said Aunt Hetty sympathetically,
as she saw the girl raise her hand to her face and
tremble as if overcome with emotion. "Get right
down and come into the house," she said kindly,
"We've enough an' to spare here. You'll be chipper
enough when you've been here a spell."
Blanche, controlling the desire to fold her arms
around Aunt Hetty's neck, followed her into the
'arge, sunny kitchen.
"You've poor an' lonesome enough, I reckon," said
Aunt Hetty compassionately. "Well, the farmhouse
is big enough for all of us an' I dare say," she added
with a beaming smile, "that the good, wholesome
vittals that you get here won't disagree with you.
This is Andrew," she said as a tall, sunburned young
man entered the room. "This is the new help,
Andrew," nodding her head toward "Sarah" who
stood with downcast eyes, the personification of
bashfulness.
"I'm glad that the longed for help' has come at

stood with downcast eyes, the personification of bashfulness.
"I'm glad that the longed for help' has come at last, Auntie," said Andrew glancing carelessly at the little brown-robed figure.
"He isn't any relation to us," said Aunt Hetty, after Andrew had left the room, "but his parents were good, honest people an' when they died we concluded to take the boy and now he's just like our own child. It's comfortin' to know that we'll have someone to look after us when we get old and decrepit."
An amused expression flitted across "Sarah's" countenance as the last words fell from Aunt Hetty's lips. "Not any immediate danger of decreptiness," she murmured.
"I'm real glad, Joshua, that you brought Sarah

sips. "Not any immediate danger of decrepitness," she murmured.

"I'm real glad, Joshua, that you brought Sarah home with you," said Aunt Hetty one evening about a week after the arrival of her new 'help.' "She don't look over strong," she continued, "but there's plenty of light work to keep one person busy. She don't seem to know over much concernin' housework, but she's willin' to learn an' that's half the battle."

"I guess she wasn't used to work—she has—I mean —at least I've heard that city girls don't know much about work," said farmer Jocelyn hurriedly.

"Like enough they don't said Aunt Hetty complacently. "I must say it's no credit to their parents," she concluded with asperity.

Days and weeks passed quickly away. Blanche

placently. "I must say it's no credit to their parents," she concluded with asperity.

Days and weeks passed quickly away. Blanche gradually became accustomed to the work which she was called upon to do and as time passed on, she was forced to admit that the change in her mode of iting was proving beneficial in many ways.

"I'm sure you must be tired of masqueradin' by this time," said Uncle Joshua, standing by the table where Blanch stood straining the warm rich milk into great pots preparatory to placing it in the spring house

into great pots preparatory to placing it in the spring house "No indeed," replied Blanche with a merry laugh. "I love to help Aunt Hetty—and besides, Uncle Joshua, I am actually learning to keep house." A peal of silvery laughter rang through the cheerful kitchen and floated directly to the ears of an individual who, with his arm thrown carelessly across the bough of an apple tree, watched the blue smoke that came from his cigar, and as it arose higher and higher among the clustering leaves of the tree, the "castle" that rested upon the vapory foundation wayed slowly from side to side then disappeared and the state of the tree, the "castle" that rested upon the vapory foundation wayed slowly from side to side then disappeared and the state of the tree that the state of the tree that the state of the tree of th

voice.
"I was thinking of-of-the weather," stammered

"That is a very nice subject," said "Sarah" fanning her dushed cheeks with a corner of her apron. "I never fully realized the delights of country life until now," she said earnestly. "Of course," she added quickly, "people who live in a great city have few opportunities to enjoy the beauties of nature."
"Tell me about the city. Do you think it would be hard to work one's way there" asked Andrew.
"Ye-yes, I believe it is. Of course people have to work very hard—at least I think they do." Noticing Andrew's look of astonishment she declared that

rich people were not near so happy as those who had to work for a living, adding navely, "It is ever so much nicer to spend money that you have earned yourself."

This was only one of the many interviews which Andrew and Aunt Hetty's "help" seemed to find so interesting.

"I declare," said Aunt Hetty good naturedly, "I believe that Sarah and Andrew will make a match."

"A what?" exclaimed Uncle Joshua excitedly.

"Land a living, Joshua, abody would think you'd never heard of two young people strikin' up a match." said Aunt Hetty in astonishment. "We were young ourselves, Joshua, and we mustn't set ourselves against:—"

"Oh bother the preachin!" said Uncle Joshua impatiently, "Bla-Sarah I mean, can't and won't marry Andrew, that's settled."

"Sakes allye!" exclaimed Aunt Hetty wrathfully. "I guess our Andrew's good enough for a girl nobody knows anything about. But there, if they've both made up their minds to the same thing they'll not listen to anybody—no more than no did, Joshua," she said with a merry twinkle in her kindly gray eyes.

"I think it's about time this masqueradin' was

listen to anybody—no more than me did, Joshua," she said with a merry twinkle in her kindly gray eyes.

"I think it's about time this masqueradin' was stopped," said Uncle Joshua severely, the first moment that he and Blanche were alone. "I won't have anybody make a fool of Andrew, He's every bit as good as we are—he's poor now but—"

"I haven't been 'making a fool of Andrew,' Uncle Joshua," said Blanche softly.

"Well, at any rate it's high time this was stopped. Your aunt will never forgive me."

"If I go away now, Uncle Joshua, won't you let me come back to spend Thanksgiving?" pleaded Blanche.

"Why bless my heart, child, you're welcome to stay here all the days of your life providin' you'll wear your own clothes and let people know that you're not a pauper."

"But Uncle Joshua, can't I be 'Sarah' for just a few days before Thanksgiving?" said Blanche coaxingly.

"Well," said farmer Jocelyn weakening, " if it's to be only for a 'few days' I'll say yes. I suppose you want to help Aunt Hetty bake the pumpkin and the mince pies, eh?"

"Yes, Aunt Hetty has promised to let me do all the baking. I have become a first class house-keeper," said Blanche proudly.

"You have promised to give me an answer the day before Thanksgiving. It is a long time to wait," said Andrew gloomily.

"You ought to be willing to wait as long as Jacob waited for Rachel," said Blanche mischievously.

"The time will not seem short to me for I shall be away from you," said Blanche softly. The next moment she was gone.

"Sarah" and Andrew were alone in the sunny bitchen averent dath the along the courter of the sunny bitchen averent dath the sunny bitchen averent dath to the caloni in the sunny bitchen averent dath the sunny bitchen aver

away from you, said moment she was gone.

"Sarah" and Andrew were alone in the sunny kitchen surrounded by the good things that had been prepared for the next day's feast.
"Would you still love me, Andrew, if I were to tell you that—that 'I am not what I seem?" asked "Sarah" gazing timidly into the honest blue eyes that were so full of love and tenderness.
"Yes, I would still love you, dear," said Andrew, pressing his lips to the little hand that was clasped within his own.
"Will you still love me even if—if—a great change should take place?"
"I will always love you, I couldn't do anything else," said Andrew simply.
"You do not ask me to tell you my secret," said "Sarah" with a rapid, upward glance.
"Nothing can destroy my faith in you, dear," replied Andrew, clasping the girl close to his heart.
"So you've told Aunt Hetty all about it and you're goin' to 'surprise Andrew. When's the masqueradin' goin' to end? Well, well. I wonder how Andrew'll take it?" said Uncle Joshua. He chuckled softly. "Blanche don't know neither does Andrew know anything about the fifty thousand dollars that his uncle left in my care to be given to him on his weddin' day. Well, well, it does beat all."

There is a rustling of silk, then a vision of loveliness such as the waiting lover had sometimes seen

ay. Well, well, it does beat all."

There is a rustling of silk, then a vision of loveliness, such as the waiting lover had sometimes seen in his dreams, appeared before him. Dazed with astonishment he drew the small, daintily gloved hand within his arm and waiked slowly into the old fashioned parlor where Aunt Hetty, Uncle Joshua and their guests were assembled.

"What God hath joined together let no man put asunder," said the white haired minister reverently. Congratulations followed, then Uncle Joshua drew Andrew aside and placing a folded document in his hand said, "Your Uncle Timothy's will, my blessing goes with it."

Two soft hands clasped Andrew's arm, "I—I—must tell you Andrew that—that my name isn't Sarah, it is Blanche—and—and I have a good deal of money—and—and—" Blanche's tear dimmed eyes pleaded for forgiveness. Andrew hesitated for an instant then opening wide his arms clasped his wife to his heart. "Nothing can separate us now, my darling," he said fervently.

"It's turned out just as I said it would, Josiah," said Aunt Hetty. "When folks make up their minds that they're made for each other, they don't gen'ly let small things stand in the way."

"I don't think they do," replied farmer Jocelyn dreamily.

M. A. Thurston.

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because, but for this window a little girl of three, in the daintiest furred long coat, with a mop of spun gold rings tumbled over the gray fur and blue cloth, would not have stopped to admire its splendors and the patient Swede girl with her, would not have coaxed her in vain.

book, or even to notice Mrs. Rollins who had come up puffing a little with "The Orime of Sylvestre Bonard."

Mrs. Rollins was a little, plump, white woman, with pretty toilets and a lisp. She appeared over; timid, and possibly a silly dove; but she was sufficiently acute the Reverent Tanaddeus Got the parish owing the wind Miss Wilder liberally subscribed. She went every Sunday, twice a day to church, she attended the week day services in Lent; but she did not belong to the church. Why? That is what Mrs. Rollins was telling Mrs. Dubarry, the librarian, while Miss Celiatramped more andmore swiftly up the hill.

"She the make her hear." said Mrs. Bubarry, the librarian, while Miss celiabeting her sealskin.

"Why, I saw her talking to Mrs. Brace's little girl only a minute ago, said Mrs. Dubarry, a stranger in the place; a reserved, dark woman who had known enough hardship and turmoil to be thankful for this quiet harbor.

"Ah, that was it, Betty," (Mrs. "Hord was and the mites and th had known enough hardship and turmoil to be thankful for this quiet harbor.

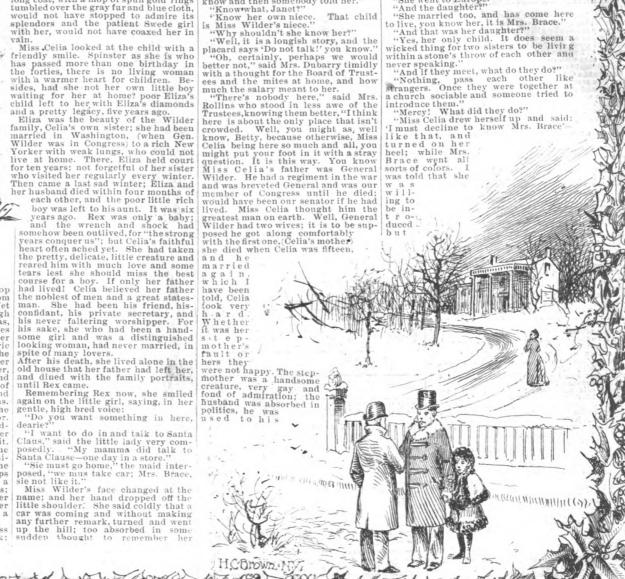
"Ah, that was it, Betty," (Mrs. Dudarry was an old friend of the rector's wife.) "I do believe she didn't know and then somebody told her." "Know her own niece. That child is Miss Wilder's niece." "Why shouldn't she know her?" "Well, it is a longish story, and the placard says 'Do not talk!' you know." "Oh, certainly, perhaps we would better not," said Mrs. Dubarry timidly with a thought for the Board of Trustees and the mites at home, and how much the salary meant to her.

"There's nobody here," said Mrs. Rollins who stood in less awe of the Trustees, knowing them better, "I think here is about the only place that isn't crowded. Well, you might as, well know. Betty, because otherwise, Miss Celia being here so much and all, you might put your foot in it with a stray question. It is this way. You know Miss Celia's father was General Wilder. He had a regiment in the war and was breveted General and was our member of Congress until he died; would have been our senator if he had lived. Miss Celia thought him the greatest man on earth. Well, General Wilder had two wives; it is to be supposed he got along comfortably with the first one, (Celia's mother) she died when Celia was fifteen, a nd he married a gain.





ISS CELIA WILDER did not stop at the public library, as her custom was, on her way up the hill. Yet she had intended to stop. Though it was the day before Christmas, and Miss Celia was loaded with bundles she still had enough loose silver in her pocket to pay her passage in the electric car that creaked and whirred up the hill past her, a red blur in the winter dusk; crammed like a beehive; however, she would not ride, she would walk and go into the library for the "Crime of Sylvestre Bonard," to be finished and left there for her to-day, by Mrs. Rollins. Indeed, she did walk as far as the library, and paused outside the door. The library is a thin, high brick building, with an unhappy accident of a tower on one side; but Miss Celia admired it, because her father had given it to the town. She looked, now, with a sentiment approaching to fondness on the great oaken doors and the little shops which flared in front. One shop was a milliner's and the other a confectioner's; and in the latter window was a glitter of iced cakes and sugar forms, all under the eye of a Santa Claus uprearing a Christmas tree.



addition to regular premium offers the Publishers are offering special prizes for the largest list of subscribers sent in during the next 30 days: Suits of Clothes, Dresses, Sew ing Machines, Watches, Clocks, Roller Organs and many articles in Silverware are to be presented to our workers. All share the same chance. Start your Club to-day.

celia is obstinate. You've heard about her wanting to join the church—no, of course you haven't; well, she did, and came to Tad about it; and he told her that she must first be reconciled to her sister."

"Was she willing?"

"No, she wouldn't join the church. I was afraid she would go to the Cathedral or even to some other denomination; I wanted Tad to be a little kind to her; but you know what he is about what he calls matters of principle; no, he wouldn't yield a jot; quoted things out of the Bible. Well, he was right; but I can't look at things quite so independently. And she gives three hundred dollars a year. But she made no difference at, all; went to church and subscribed just the same. Why, Betty, it is half past five—time for us both to go."

Long before they went, Miss Celia had climbed the little space between the library building and her house. The house was a large square house, the roof of which for apex had a cupola. In front of the house was a wide veranda and it was set far back in a deep lawn and old fashioned garden where the chrysanthemums were only a little done blooming. By n w. the long hill before her, the short hill bell ind her, straightened below into the business streets, were pricked out in yellow and white sparks of light. The great electric tower had a white blaze with radiating bristles, like a weird porcupine. The snow was crisp under her tread. Just as she came opposite the church, the chimes broke forth.

Sweet and keen the notes pealed through the air:

"God bless you merry gentlemen Let nothing you dismay.

"God bless you merry gentlemen Let nothing you dismay, For Jesus Christ our Saviour Was born on Christmas day."

Years and years ago, when the sister whom she had taught herself to hate, was a little innocent baby no bigger than her own little girl, Celia had sung that carol to her and told her about Santa Claus. Yes, she had taken her into a shop, once, to see a great figure. Likely enough it was to that story the child alluded.

a shop, once, to see a great figure. Likely enough it was to that story the child alluded.

"To think of her coming here to live just when I was getting settled and comfortable," thought Celia bitterly, and making no account of Mr. Brace's business.

She recalled with a sick heart all the miserable times under her father's roof; a thousand petty squabbles, the venomous fashion in which her stepmother poisoned the child's heart against her, the neglect of the house and her own pitiful efforts to keep the surface smooth, so that her father might not be worried; her father's ghastly face, the agony of the end; the dragging, degrading torment of it all.

"She is her mother's own daughter and I never will forgive her!" she vowed. She vowed it all the more earnestly that she felt herself shaken by the sight of the little face, so like the little face that she once had loved.

It was relief to reach her own gate, her own door. She went in. The fire was blazing in the open fireplace; the old fashioned red plush and damask of the chairs; the pretty furnishings, the etchings on the walls and the Detaille that poor Eliza left her, how friendly and bright they looked coming out of the dark chill!

Reggy and Maddox, his nurse, had their heads close together over a table and a sheet of name. Maddox.

bright they looked coming out of the dark chill!

Reggy and Maddox, his nurse, had their heads close together over a table and a sheet of paper. Maddox folded the paper just as Miss Wilder entered.

"And it must be put up the chimney, Maddox," says Master Reggy very earnestly, "you might address it to Santa Claus, care of the chimney, you know."

Maddox, in the most matter of fact way would have thrown the note in the fire, but Celia arrested her.

"I'll put it up the chimney for you, dear," said she. She was glad to get off her street dress. She always dressed for her late dinner. Like the dinner, the soft black silks that she wore were a relic of the old Washington state.

When she came down, she sat in the great carved armchair and let Reggy crumple her pretty dark hair and pull her little ears (a funny caress of his) at his olrodship's pleasure. Half dreamily she enjoyed his affection and the music of his small, rippling voice. Suddenly, without any warning: "Aunty, Maddox says I can't never have a little sister," says Reggy, "can't I?"

"Why, no, Reggy,"—rather startled—"I suppose

says I can't never have a little sister," says Reggy, "can't 12"

"Why, no, Reggy,"—rather startled—'I suppose not." Then she sighed and stroked his brown cur's. "You know you have two little sisters in Heaven." Master Reggy squirmed and kicked the chair, as he exploded: "I don't care for them! they ain't no company for me! I want a little sister that can play ball and 'lectric cârs with me, like Gracie Brace!" "Gracie Brace!" cried his aunt almost pushing him from her, "when did you ever see Gracie Brace?" "Why, I've seen her lots and lots of times—anyway four times; and I've played in her yard."

Miss Celia gasped. She did not answer Rex; she could not. This must be stopped; but over the best way to stop it she must need meditate; so, silent, and knitting her long slim fingers, Celia frowned at the fire.

Rex went on with his thoughts: "Aunty, can't santa Claus give me a sister for Christmas. I'd rather have a sister than a donkey."
"No, Rex dear, neither Santa Claus nor anyone can give you a sister."
Rex looked at her. He had never known his aunt o deceive him. His little lip twitched, the tears gathered in his wide brown eyes. In a childish gust of passion, like a flash he tore the crumpled little note that he had given his aunt and that she was still holding, out of her fingers and aimed it at the fire; crying: "Then I don't care anything about Santa, nor Christmas, neither, and I won't give him his note!"

Ceristmas, lettler, and I won't give him his note!"
Celia captured the note—it had only reached the tiles of the hearth—and slid it into her pocket. Then she clasped the little quivering, angry boy creature and whispered: "Hush dearie, it isn't Santa Claus' fault. Nobody can give you a little sister."
"Can't nobody?" said Rex solemnly.
"Nobody, dear."
"But God can, can't He?"
It was one of those logical avalanches that children are always pulling down on our heads. Miss Celia crawled out, with the usual craven evasion. "Reggy, it would be a miracle, and there are no miracles now-adays."

are always pulling down on our heads. Miss Celia crawled out, with the usual crawner evasion. "Reggy, it would be a miracle, and there are no miracles now-adays."

"What's a miracle?"—busy with his aunt's ear and twisting it so that he hurt her—"and why can't they have 'em nowadays."

More craven evasion from Miss Celia, "Reggy, dear, you are too little to understand, when you get older I will tell you."

"Tell it to me so I can understand, like you did 'bout the 'lectric cars!"

"I can't," said Miss Celia truthfully. But he was so woful in his disappointment and perplexity that she did not abandon the subject, like a wise woman, but parleyed with him, and tangled herself up in explanations and futile consolations, to the effect that little sisters did not come grown up and able to play but, at first, were unpleasant red babies who could do nothing but cry.

Rex brought the consolation up with a round turn, exclaiming: "No, Aunty, that isn't always so! Willy Durham has got a little new sister, he has only had her a month, his mamma got her in Chicago, at Field's I guess, 'cause I heard her tell you vesterday: 'You can get everything at Field's now:' and she's four years old; and rides on a tricycle!"

"But, my dear, she is a little adopted sister."

"Oh!" Reggy had a way of letting out a single, abrupt, bitten off "Oh!" when his mind was working; it was like a puff of steam from an engine, sure to have results, soon. Presently he spoke again, very slowly. "Aunty, I 'spose 'dopted sisters are the big ones. I'd rather have a 'dopted sister's are he big ones. I'd rather have a 'dopted sister's are he big ones. I'd rather have a 'dopted sister, a kashly Miss Celia answered that you could take any little girl that you liked whose parents or guardians would let you have her.

Reggy said "Oh!" and said not another word on the subject. But when he came to his prayers at night (such a quiet, good little boy as he was all through dinner and the evening!) he added an original postscript: "Please God give Reggy a little 'd

Down stairs, she took out Reggy's note to Santa Claus. On a very smudgy and crumpled sheet of paper was written;

"Dear Santa Claus:—I want a little sister and a donkey and a little eart and a typewriter like Maddox's niece plays on at the office. My aunty wants a good little boy, maybe I will do, Henry Feretzle wants a fur cape to keep him warm when he drives aunty, Teena wants an easier place where they have dinner in the middle of the day, but I guess she was mad when she said that so you don't need to mind, but she truly wants a photograph album, Mrs. Feretzle wants a tea kettle, the cover has come off of hers and she don't know any English so she can't buy one down town, but you can talk Swedish can't you? And I want a little sister most of all. Maddox wants a good little boy, too, like aunty. Lizzie our second girl that never saw Santa Claus wants a new cap and an umbrella, and please don't forget I want a little sister. Maddox writes this but I write my name myself." Below in Reggy's cramped little hand was: "I love you Santy Clos. Reggy."

"Poor little pet lamb!" said Miss Wilder tenderly. "I hope he will forget about the sister and be content with his donkey and the typewriter his uncle has sent him. Now the other things—I believe I have everything except the teapot. How like Maddox to never say a word for herself. I hope she'll like her dress." Thus thinking, she called Maddox to consult with her about the tea kettle.

Generally, Maddox (from long and careful "knowing her place") looked no more expressive than the wooden woman who comes out to announce pleasant weather, in some toy barometers; but to-night, there was a dab of red on each cheek and a queer, flickering brightness in her pale eyes.

"Miss Celia, I was coming to tell you," she began in her ordinary voice, but her hands were plucking at her apron, "there is some—news!"

"News!" repeated Miss Celia, while her heart went seeking timorously for possible loss or sorrow; for this is the cruel gloss of affliction, that we shall ever afterward be

ahout her mistress."

"That was wrong, Maddox," said Celia with dry lips.

"Yes ma'am, but the subject came up unbeknownst to me. She says Mrs. Brace is a very kind lady—"
Miss Celia only lifted her hand.
"That ain't it, Miss Celia. Mrs. Brace is in mourning now and—it's for her mother, Miss Celia."

Dead! A wicked woman, Celia believed her; but her sins were gone to that solemn audit where the cleanest of souls must need mercy.
"God forgive her!" said Celia.
"Yes ma'am," said Maddox in all sincerity. "She died very suddenly, in Paris, a month ago come tomorrow. You know she was married again, Miss Celia, to a French gentleman; so they buried her there; and sent all papers and things to Mrs. Brace; and Elna says there is something in these papers about you, and she thinks Mrs. Brace wants to make friends."

The red crept into Celia's cheek; she drew up her slim figure haughtily. You see it is an easy thing to forgive the dead, the living are another matter. "I wish Mrs. Brace no harm." said Celia in a clear tone, "but our paths lie apart. She chose it when she would not come to our father on his death bed. But that is not why I sent for you, Maddox."

Maddox told Teena that she felt herself "fair snapped in two."

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.]

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.]

A FRIEND IN NEED.

Accidents occur daily. Thousands each year are Maimed, Disabled and Killed. The Provident Fund Society, 29 Broadway, N. Y., is a Strong, Vigorous Accident Insurance Company, Pays \$5000.00 death benefit, \$25.00 weekly disability while disabled, at a cost of \$12.00 per year to the member. Send for application stating business. Agents wanted every where. Liberal terms to the right men.

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Yours respectfully,

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Please mention Comfort when you write.

Please mention Convont when you write?



My DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS:

Let me tell you how to have some good times with your presents this Christmas. We all enjoy the day, and the giving and receiving of gifts; and as it "comes but once a year," we might as well have just as jolly a time as we can.

One way of distributing the presents, is to have them all snugly wrapped in paper (and the more layers the better) and placed in a big basket the day before. Cover the basket with a shawl or blanket hung over two chairs. On Christmas morning, all gather around the basket, while one draws forth and distributes the parcels, while one draws forth and distributes the parcels, which should of course be plainly marked with the name of the intended recipient. Seissers will be in loud demand for a while, and the floor will be apt to present a chaos of paper and twine; but that only makes more fun,

A variation on this is to wrap all the small parcels.

paper and twine; but that only makes more fun, you know.

A variation on this is to wrap all the small parcels in several papers, each wrapper bearing the name of some one of the family, while the inner layer has the name of the one for whom the gift is really intended. As these are opened and passed around from one to another according to directions, the faces of the unlucky ones who find that a specially desirable parcel is not theirs after all, and the delight of others in an unexpected "run of luck," is very amusing.

Another very exciting plan is to hide the gifts, properly wrapped and labelled, in all parts of the house, from garret to cellar, and set the family to hunting. When one finds a parcel not intended for himself, he lets it alone and says nothing; this prolongs the hunt, and gives a chance for kindly hints. Sometimes strings are fastened to certain parcels, and then woven all over the house, into trunks and boxes, up and down stairs, etc. The end of this



string is given to the destined owner of the gift, and he is told to wind it up until he finds the end. This makes fun if it is tried in the evening, when the house is only partially lighted.

Still another way is to arrange the parcels after the fashion of the "fish pond?" at a fair, and let the family fish for them. Or the "grab-bag" idea is not a bad one. But I have told you enough for this time, so I will just wish you all the merriest kind of a Christmas, and let you do the rest of the talking this month yourselves.

Christmas, and let you do the rest of the talking this month yourselves.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I live in a little town called Lakeville, it is situated in the western park of Plymouth Co., Mass. From the name of the town one couldn't help knowing there were lakes here, and there are several and one of them is Assawampsett, which is the largest lake in Massachusetts. I live four miles from it. Papa has a sail boat on the lake, and summers we go there and have pienies. The population of Lakeville is about 1000. It contains one church and three chapels, two factories, one shoe and the other a nail factory which my father owns and runs; it is about a stones throw from our house. We have no graded schools of any kind here, so for our high school education we have to go to the adjoining town (Middleboro) which is but three miles distant. I wonder how many of the cousins have been to old historic Plymouth where the Pilgrims landed in 1820? The sights are really worth going to see. I live within 30 miles of there. I have no pets only a bird dog of papa's, and he likes to be petted all of the time. I am an only child and there are very few girls near me of my age (15) so sometimes I get lonely. Last March I saw an advertisement in a paper saying that if any one would send loc. they could have 3 packages of flower seeds and Comfort for three months. I sent and got them, and I like Comfort so well that I shall subscribe for it when I can. I should like to correspond with some of the girl cousins. Your new nices.

MABEL OSBORNE, Lakeville, Mass.

You must have some fine times boating, Mabel. I wish I would be there to go with you, and especially

You must have some fine times boating, Mabel. I ish I would be there to go with you, and especially hen you are having a picnic on some specially fine

"I live in the garden spot of the world, where the flowers never cease to bloom; even at Christmas we can go into the woods and gather wild flowers to decorate and make home cheerful. How many of you Maine cousins would like to see wild flowers Christmas? I think flowers are the most beautiful hings on earth. I have a great many, our yard is crowded. I think Comport is the nicest little paper imaginable. I enjoy reading it ever so much. Will some of the cousins please send me all of the story. The Mysterious Twins,' up to the July number? I would be ever so much obliged, and return the papers if they don't want to give them away. Would like a girl corresponden about my age, which is 14, from Maine. Your loving niece,

FLOSSIE RANDALL, Faceville, Ga."



Flowers at Christmas, just think of it! Here we have only ice and snow out-of-doors, not even a green leaf except a few belated ones on the apple trees. To be sure, we have some flowers in the house, but even those look as if they knew it was winter outside.

THE JOURNEY.

"I live in the picturesque village of Ellenville, about 100 miles from N. Y. I study arithmetic, grammar, history and geography. We have speaking every two weeks here. We choose sides and then each side elects its president, vice-president, secretary and committee, and each party speaks every four weeks—don't you think that is a nice plan? We have three rooms in our school and two class-rooms. I would like to correspond with some of the cousins of my own age (18.)

Your affectionate nicec, PEARL ARNOYS, BOX 77, Ellenville, Ulster Co., N. Y."

Kind Aunt Minerva:—My auntie is a subscriber to Comport and I see so many nice letters written by small consins that I would like to join them. I reside in New Orleans or Crescent City, and it is a beautiful place. I attend the Pinac Institute and was given a silver medal for lessons and a premium for affithmetic at our commencement in June. I am in the country at present visiting my grandparents and have glorious times; we have such grand rides.

BERTHA BLOCH, 9 years old, Napoleonville, La.

Dear Auntie:—I have been reading the Comport for about 2 years, and am a dear lover of the paper. I think the children's column is just grand. I am a girl of 11 years. My father is a farmer, and we are very poor at present, and so much affliction in our family. I have a brother and sister. Sister is 28 years old and is totally blind, and brother is 16 and is very badly afflicted with his eyes and rheumatism in his limbs. He is not able to do very much work; he plays the accordeon and mouth organ, and wants a fiddle very bad but we are not able to afford it. He has been so since 8 years of age. We live in the country and get very lonesome. Our nearest neighbor is 5 miles; our post-office is 5 miles. The railroad goes 100 rods from our house. It is very lonesome here, no one to see only as the train comes, and it only comes once a day. My brother would like some of the cousins to write to him and send him any little thing to pass away the time. ELLA KENDALL, Rockham, Faulk Co., Dak.

only comes once a day. My brother would like some of the cousins to write to him and send him any little thing to pass away the time. ELLA KERDALL, Rockham, Faulk Co., Dak.

You must indeed be very lonely, Ella. It seems terrible to us, who live within a stone's throw of neighbors, to think of having none within five miles. I hope some of the young folks will write to Ella and her brother, and send them some good reading.

Dear Anntie and Cousins:—I live way down here in the Sunny South among the sweet-seented flowers and lofty pines. I do not live near any mountains, but I enjoy our sunny Southern home. I am corresponding with an Indian girl; she is 16 and I certainly enjoy reading her letters. I cannot praise Comfoor too highly. When I get a copy I do not stop till it gives me comfort by reading the newsy letters from the distant cousins. It is a nice little paper and well deserves the name of Comfort. I have 2 little sisters. Two of us go to school at the institute in sight of our home. I am a farmer's daughter. My papa is P. M. here and I write as many letters as I wish. I am a little bird, but don't let the owls know I can fly; I am afraid they might come after me. Papa plants cotton and any of the girl cousins (who have never seen any) who will correspond with me, I will send them enough to see what it is,

Poe's. Harnett Co., N. C.

My dear Aunt Minerva:—Well you please admit a 16 year old niece into your cozy corner? Dear Auntie, I want you to pay a kind word to the nice Editor of Comfort for us children. Ask him if he won't please relinquish a whole page to us, young folks, to write upon; for I know we all love you as much as the big folks do, and expect more. We need attention, too. You needn't be afraid we will get cross at you for being garrulous. Because we like these loquacious, old aunties. Now, Auntie, I didn't mean to say you are old, for you look "awfie nice and dood" with your two solemn-looking owls sitting be side you in your picture. I don't like owls, for they make such ugly noise and sea



THE END. .

ters younger than I. I want to teach school next year. I wish all of the cousins were with me now while I am writing this. For it is too lovely in the country to-day. The sun is shining in all his glory upon me; and I am writing this out in the yard. Your affectionate niece, VERNIE K. LEDANE, Bedington, Berkeley Co., W. Va.

I think the Editor will have to enlarge Comport.
Vernie, if he makes room for all the cousins who want to write. The older ones are constantly begging for more room. Some time we will ask him to issue a supplement, with nothing in it but letters; how would you like that?

to issue a supplement, with nothing in it but letters; how would you like that?

Dear Auntie:—I will write about this beautiful "Prairie State." Illinois. It derived its name from "Illini," an Indian word signifying "superior men." Its inhabitants are called "Suckers." The first white man who ever set foot within the present boundary of the State was Nicholas Perrot, at Chicago, in 1671. I live 3 miles from the Illinois river, and 4 miles from Peoria. The country hereabout was formerly inhabited by several tribes of the Illinois Indians. We find many Indian relies, such as arrow-heads, axes, drills, etc. I have about 500 arrow-heads, of which I have sent you one, which I hope you will accept. I want all the cousins to write to me about their State, etc. I am your humble nephew, age 15. Peoria, Ill.

Thank you very much for the arrow-head, Fred; it was an unusually fine specimen. I omitted your offer, in printing your letter, as I knew you would be deluged with requests, and would rue the day you made it.

"Auntie, will you admit a farmer's daughter among

"Auntie, will you admit a farmer's daughter among your band? I am 16 years of age. I love to read the cousins' letters. My brother has 2 squirrels; he is going to tame them; they will sit on his lap and eat apples, hickory nuts, peas and other things. We keep them in a large box so that they cannot get away. I do not spend much time with pets, for I can plow, drag, bind grain, pitch hay and do many other things, so you see I am quite busy. I do housework when I have the time. Your niece,

MARY STOHR, Seneca, Wis."

No more room for us this time. I shall hope to hear from ever so many, about the way you spent Christmas.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for NervousDebility and all NervousComplaints Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noves, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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The Richer than the California Gold Fields. On E NUGGET of Pure Gold weighing Eleven (11) Pounds, value \$3,520, recently picked up in this region (See N. Y. Financial and Mining Record.) A DIAMOND from this section now owned by Col. Henry Deming, of Harrisburg, worth \$2,500. Rubies and Garnets also.

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are contained letters which when properly arranged form the name of one of the best known ex-Presidents of the U.S., the same also being the name of a prominent City in the State of Obilo. In forming the name it is not necessary to use all of the letters contained in Bland & Clever?

To the first person sending in the correct name on or before January 30th, 1882, we will give \$25.00 in cash, to the second sending the correct name on or before January 30th, 1882, we will give \$25.00 to the next five persons \$5.00 to each. To the last person sending in the correct name we will pay \$25.00, to the next of the last \$20.00, to the execond from the last \$15.00, to the third from the last \$10.00, and to the next 55.00, and to the next fifty persons (if there are so many) \$1.00 to each.

With your answer send 25 ceuts in silver or stamps for a bottle of "STAR PHILLS" the best Liver, Stomach, Bowel and Kidney Regulator ever used. They are made from barks, roots and herbs, very small, sugar coated, act gently yet promptly, no griping, 50 doses in each bottle. No answer will be recorded unless pills are ordered as these cash presents are given simply to help introduce our wonderful medicine. Immediately after Jan, 31st a list of the names and addresses of the successful persons will be mailed to each person answering this adv. Satisfaction guaranteed or money will be refunded. As to our responsibility we refer to any bank or business firm in Chicago. This is the first time this adv. has appeared. Cut it out and write at once. Addres.



ASTHMA No. 1164 Broadway, New York. For Book and Large FREE
ON TRIAL. Officers from Worders on the Surect, Continent, Office, See New Fork World and Philadelphia Press, May 18 and 19, 1899; also
Caristian Observer and Medical Journal, April 9, 1890. The Christian Exangelsts, May 30, 1890, says editorially: "The
Kola Plantia a gift direct of God, to sufferers from Asthma, and His blessing will rest upon Stanley and seciles, explorers
of the Dark Continent. It is an unfailing our for Asthma." (Tr Remember, No Pay Until Cured.



DECEMBER is again with us, the merriest month of the whole year. Thanksgiving has gone and left many with a bad case of dyspepsia from overeating, but they will recover in time for Christmas dinner, and New Year's rails. In another department for November was taken up the theme of Thanksgiving, and it was well treated. We surely can all of us take a lesson from the good words there said. Christmas is always a new theme for writers and will never grow threadbare as long as there are any children in this good world of ours. And how happy we can all make our bomes with remembrances to our friends at this season, be they never so small. Do not allow yourselves to think a small gift will not be appreciated. As it is not the value which is cherished by most people, it is the pleasure of having been remembered.

Do not allow Grandpa and Grandma to sit in

this season, be they never so small. Do not allow yourselvest to think a small gift will not be appreciated. As it is not the value which is therished by most people, it is the pleasure of having been remembered.

Do not allow Grandpa and Grandma to sit in the corner and see all enjoying the gifts from friends and they have nothing at all, scrimp the young people, for they have many years in prospect to enjoy life. Whereas the dear old grandparents may be with you for the last time on this merry Christmas day.

And in playing your pleasant games in the eyening, invite them to join you and also ask them to suggest some of the old games played when they were children and see with what joy they will join in the sport, and in many instances the pleasure afforded by them will be far in excess of anything you could have imagined. If not too old they can most always dance and sing and will enjoy giving the children a few selections from the "old time melodies," such as were popular when they had singing school at the corner, and all the musical instrument was a tuning fork in the hand of the leader. And now that I am on the subject of songs what can be more uncertain and inexplicable than the popularity of a song just out. Bill Nye can write a popular article for a newspaper, but no writer can sit down and write a popular song. As an instance of this, the now popular song: "Marguerite" lay around in the music stores for many months, and nobody bought it. One morning, however, the young man who wrote and composed it found himself famous. So it has been with less deserving songs, such as: "McGinty" and "Annie Rooney." There is nothing in either of them to give them their unearned popularity, yet they became very popular. But the One song of to-day—"Gomrades"—is deservedly so. The music is good, and the chorus is fine, and the run of the whole has the merit of, good sense. It is not only the music or works of the song which give it worth, the beautiful mingling of two. In the work of the song was to think and feel that w

that friend untold pleasure for the next twelve months.

Do not let the good times stop with Christmas but go on with the merry-makings until Dame Nature shall again come forth in her gorgeous robes of emerald to call us out to duties which we must perform in the long summer days.

The prize album has been awarded to Miss Josephine Puenteuer, Ventura, California, and I do wish you could see the letter of this little Swiss girl who has only been in America a few years, and does not have the privilege of attending school, but must help herself to learn our language as best she may. I cannot speak in too great praise of the beautiful letters I am receiving daily, they are some of them equal to the best I have ever seen, but little Josephine's letter is almost perfect, and I sincerely trust she will enjoy the album, and go on improving in our ways and language, and she is sure to be a noble woman.

I have so many questions on hand this month

a noble woman, questions on hand this month I have so many questions on hand this month I am hardly able to decide on the ones which should have the space, and in making my decision I have selected those which I think will be of the most general use to my many young friends, and first on the list comes Irwin C., Lake Fork, Ills., with "What are the qualifications necessary to become a successful shorthand writer, time required to learn, wages usually paid, and what are the chances of obtaining employment after one has become com-

petent?" In reply, the first requisite is a moderately good education, and a general knowledge of the usual forms of speech used by men in business correspondence, a quick ear and an amiable disposition. The time required to learn depends on the close attention to the work. I should think with your command of language and good penmanship you could learn much and gain great headway in six months. The pay is generally very good and the positions and surroundings almost invariably pleasant. In a city there is a good prospect at almost all seasons of the year, and a competent stenograper or typewriter need not be idle if he or she can fill the bill as above. Of course there are many incompetent ones in the field but they soon go the rounds and the faithful and painstaking win the lucrative positions, and this profession is like all others, "What is worth doing, is worth doing well." The only way to improve one's handwriting is to practice. Never allow an opportunity to practice slip by you, and learn the muscular movement described in all compendiums.

John D. G., Navarro, Texas.

My information regarding the convict miners

practice slip by you, and learn the muscular movement described in all compendiums.

John D. G., Navarro, Texas.

My information regarding the convict miners of Tennessee is very meagre, and I can only answer your very interesting letter in a general way. I regret that I have not space for the letter here. I can only say, there can be little doubt that the arrangement which places om man or any number of men at the entire disposal and control of another, subject to his absolute and irresponsible will and power, is a system of things not the most favorable to moral excellence, whether of the master or the convict. The exercise of such authority must, in the nature of the case, tend to foster a spirit of brutality and force. There is in all cases of this nature a strong tendency to abuse the power we have over those who dare not resist. We certainly expect to find in connection with such a civil polity, a state of morals somewhat peculiar, acts of violence not infrequent, the animal appetites unrestrained, and I fear the system is a pernicious one, where the criminals are used as slaves were in former days. May we soon see a radical change in the state of affairs now existing.

One of the Southern born boys asks about our Northern cranberries, and if they would flourish

affairs now existing.

One of the Southern born boys asks about our Northern cranberries, and if they would flourish in a Southern climate. I do not see why they should not, the most favorable location for their cultivation being where the soil is wet and swampy for several feet in depth, and where the water stands 4 to 6 inches over the ground a large portion of the time, and can be easily drained off the land to the depth of at least one foot, select thrifty plants from a good nursery and when the worms attack them, flow the land with water which will at once destroy them. Send me a few quarts from your bog next fall and I can then tell you if you were successful.

Ethel D. W., Whatcom, Wash, asks what con-

Ethel D. W., Whatcom, Wash., asks what constitutes or makes a place of worship. The worship of the Supreme Being seems to be an instinctive principle, an impulse of our nature, a law of the soul. Wheever builds an altar, or in the silent recesses of his heart breathes a prayer; whoever bows himself toward the rising sun, or stretches forth his hand in supplication toward the moon walking in her brightness, or the stars that gem the brow of night; whoever calls upon an unknown God, or worshipthe invisible spirit that filleth immensity with his presence, and is not far from every one of us, is but acting in accordance to the impulse and instinct of his nature, and needs no place of worship built with hands, in order to fitly offer up his thanks and praises.

Eddie J. L., Culbertson, Ga.

offer up his thanks and praises.

EDDIE J. L., Culbertson, Ga.

Yes, there is a process by which you can make pencil writing almost as indelible as ink, it is to press on the pencil rather hard in writing and then either pass the tongue over the same, or breathe slowly on the paper after writing. This has been tried many times by persons using a book a long time and in which the leaves are liable to be rubbed together, causing the writing to become defaced by the diffusion of the lead over the paper. A trial of this simple experiment will readily convince you of its utility.

I have a large number of letters this month

I have a large number of letters this month again asking how to write a business letter, and as we are giving a good amount of space each month to this subject a few words here will not be amiss and will serve to answer many letters. 1st. Use the fewest words which will clearly

convey your meaning.

2d. Write plainly. Fancy penmanship is often unreadable, and it is better to write legibly, even if you think plain letters not so hand-some

3d. When ordering goods state carefully what articles you want and how much is en-

4th. In replying to a letter always mention at the beginning that it is in reply to such a letter and here mention particulars.

5th. Always read your letter before enclosing it to be sure you have said all you wanted to

it to be sure you have said all you wanted to say.

6. If money is to be enclosed, be sure it is, seal securely and direct plainly. If the firm to whom you have written does not in due time respond, in justice to yourself and him you should write for an explanation. State when you wrote, what you wrote for, amount if any enclosed, how you directed the goods to be sent, and any other information you may be able to impart. If you merely write, "I sent you an order some time ago, and you have not filled it," it is impossible to investigate the matter in an establishment of any size. Do not call a merchant a swindler even if you think so, but give him a chance to make an explanation, and in many cases you will save yourself the necessity of an apology.

MOLLIE E. B., Calooga, Miss.

the necessity of an apology.

Mollie E. B., Calooga, Miss.

It is certainly in order for you to ask any questions you desire, and I promise you I will give you the answers to the best of my ability. Dixie is an imaginary place somewhere in the Southern States of America, celebrated in a popular Negro melody as a perfect paradise of luxurious ease and enjoyment. The term is often used as a collective designation of all the Southern States. It originated many years ago when slaves were owned in New York. A certain man named "Dixy" owned large tracts of land and many slaves, and when abolition grew stronger they emigrated South and the Negroes always looked upon him and his possessions as a sort of paradise, and in their natural songs they have immortalized his name.

EMMA De V., Clinton, Ind.

"The weeping philosopher" is an epithet applied to Heracletus, a native of Ephesus, who flourished about 500 years B. C. He was of a gloomy and melancholy disposition, and is said to have been perpetually shedding tears on account of the vices of mankind.

account of the vices of mankind.

Now before I see your happy faces again we will have had Christmas and all its joys and pleasures. New Years with its good resolves, so many only made to be broken. And in all these good times won't you all remember and try to increase your own happiness by doing something to make someone clse happier, if only by a few kind words and a share of the good things given you by indulgent parents and friends, and let each day's descending sun be the witness of some kind action done. Keep up your interest in our meetings and address all your letters to Your loving,

UNCLE JOSEPHUS, (Care of COMFORT.)



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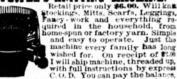


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Having recently purchased a Ladies'



ches, in solid gold-which we shall sell singly or by the dozen to pri-vate parties or the trade at the un-heard-of-low price of \$4.00 each. Each and every

DEAR COUSINS:

I shall take it for granted that all of you know just how to cook the Christmas roast beef, or to stuff that fat turkey or goose which will grace your table. So I will not give you any instructions in that line at all. But on Christmas eve, when all the children are at home, you will want to have a "candy daub;" and so this is just the time to give some nice receipts which one of the cousins sent long ago.

Prepare the meats by removing the reddish skin, and fill a tin to the depth of about one inch. Boil 2 pounds of brown sugar, 1-2 pint of water and I gill of good molasses until it hardens. Pour the hot candy on the meats. When nearly cold divide into squares.

When nearly cold divide into squares.

MARSH MALLOWS.

Dissolve 1 pound of clean gum arabic in 1 quart of water, strain; add 1 pound of refined sugar and place over a fire, stirring continually until the sugar is dissolved and the mixture has become of the consistence of honey; next add gradually the whites of 8 eggs, well beaten, stirring the mixture all time until it loses its stickiness and does not adhere to the fingers when touched. Pour into a pan dusted with flour or starch, when cool divide into small squares. Before turning out the paste it should be flavored, rose is usually employed.

Jujube Paste.

Take of gum arabic 1 pound, dissolve in a pint and a half of water and add 1 pound of sugar. Cook to a thick consistency, and when cooled a little flavor, and then turn into shallow tin pans that have been buttered.

CHOCOLATE CREAM DROPS.

cooled a little havor, and then turn into snailow tin pans that have been buttered.

CHOCOLATE CREAM DROPS.

Prepare a cream as follows: Take the white of 1egg, beat to a froth, adding an equal bulk of water at the last. Into this stir enough sugar to make a doughy mass sufficiently firm to be handled. Powdered sugar should be used. Place on a buttered tin and allow to harden a little after making into the desired shapes. Now place a cake of the best plain chocolate in a saucepan—a double boiler is the best. No water is needed, as the chocolate will slowly melt and become a thick floid. Now introduce the balls of cream, one or two at a time, and roll in the chocolate for a moment until entirely covered.

Egg stains on silver can be taken off with table salt and a wet rig. Salt sprinkled over anything that is burning on the stove will prevent any disagreeable odor.

Grease may be removed from silk by applying magnesia to the wrong side.

BLOSSOM.

I will add to these a few of my own favorite receipts.

One cup sugar, 1 cup molasses, 1-2 cup vinegar, 1-2 cup butter. Boil till brittle when dropped in water, cool in a buttered tin and break into pieces.

SUGAR CANDY.

Two cups sugar; 1-3 cup water, 2 tablespoons vinegar, butter size of small egg, 1 tablespoon glycerine. Boil without stirring over a slow fire, until it will crack when cooled in water. Pull without buttering the hands, adding any flavor preferred. It may be divided into several parts, and different flavors pulled in. Open the lump of candy and drop in the flavoring, then double together and pull.

CHOCOLATE CARAMELS.
One and one-half cups sugar, 1 1-2 cups molasses, 1 cup sweet milk, 2 squares chocolate, 1-2 cup butter, 2 tablespoons corn starch. Stir occasionally to prevent burning.

SHERBET.

Two cups sugar, 2-3 cup molasses, 1-2 cup milk, 2 squares chocolate. Boil until it is hard in water, not brittle. Add a large piece of butter, and a pinch of salt when almost done. Flavor with vanilla. Remove from fire, beat until it shows signs of sugaring, then pour out quickly.

natil it snews signs of an are tired of your way of quickly.

Perhaps some of you are tired of your way of making plum pudding, and would like to try a new receipt. I find one among some which have been sent by an old contributor.

have been sent by an old contributor.

PLUM PUDDING.

Cream together 1-2 cup each of butter and sugar, add 2 eggs well beaten, 1-2 cup each of sour milk and molasses. Add one large cup of fruit, currants or raisins; for spices, 1-2 teaspoonful each of cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and pimento; dissolve a teaspoonful of soda in a very little water and add with flour to make a rather stiff batter, not quite as thick as cake. Steam about 4 hours, a pinch of salt will add, to the flavor. These puddings will keep a week and are nearly as good cold, or warmed over as when new. To be eaten with sauce or not, as liked.

Beat 11-2 cups of sugar with 1-2 cup nice fresh butter to a foamy cream, which will require about 20 minutes, add a well beaten egg and flavoring to taste just before it is wanted, beat into the sauce 3 tablespoonfuls of boiling water, stir rapidly to prevent curdling.

water, stir rapidly to prevent curding.

Molasses or vinegar sauce.

Take 1-2 cup molasses, stir in a rounding tablespoonful of flour, and about 1-2 cup of hot water, or enough to thin it. Set on stove, add a piece of butter as large as half an egg. Let it simmer slowly until it thickens a little, perhaps about 15 minutes, remove from the stove and add 2 tablespoonfuls of vinegar and a little nutmer.

One cup bread crumbs, 1 large cup thick tart apple sauce, 1 egg, 1-2 cup sugar, a small piece of butter, 1 1-2 cups sweet milk, bake and serve with cream sauce.

Two eggs, 11-2 pints sweet milk, 1 teaspoon butter, a pinch of soda, 1 large cup of cake crumbs, and I tablespoonful of sugar, flavor taste, beat the eggs with the sugar, then add the other ingredients and bake rather slowly for about 3-4 of an hour. Reserve the white of one egg, beat to a stiff froth, add 2 teaspoons sugar and 1-2 teaspoon lemon. let the pudding cool, and spread, return to the oven, brown slightly, and cool again before serving.

I think the receipt for Wedding Cake in the April number an excellent one, and a good cake for young and old, married persons to have.

Mrs. Linnie Webber, East Sullivan, Maine.

Do you have soup with your Christmas din-er? Here are some ways of making it.

SAGO SOUP.

Wash 3 ounces of sago in boiling water and add gradually to 2 quarts of nearly boiling stock with seasoning to taste. Simmer for half an hour, when it should be well dissolved; beat up the yolks of 3 eggs, add them to half a pint of milk or cream, stir quickly into the soup and serve immediately. Do not let the soup-boil after the eggs are put in, or it will curdle.

PEA SOUP.

Use I pint of dried peas for every 4 quarts of soup, wash the peas well, then put them in 6 quarts of cold water, let them come slowly to a boil, add meat with a carrot and an onion, simmer for 3 hours, strain the soup through a sieve, place on the fire again, and put in 1 tablespoon of flour, and the same of butter mixed together. Brown some bread crumbs in the oven, put them in a tureen and pour the soup over them.

Half a cup of butter, same of milk, 1 cup sugar, 2 of flour, 2 teaspoonfuls of baking powder, 1 heaping cup of raisins, 2 eggs, and 1 large cupful of hickory nut meat chopped very fine.

One cup sugar, 1 cup shortening half lard half butter, 1 cup milk, 1 teaspoonful soda, 2 teaspoonfuls cream of tartar, half a teaspoonful each of nutmeg and cinnamon, 1 cup each of raisins and flour.

Mrs. A. S. Morey.

For a side dish you will want some

For a side dish you will want some

SCOLLOPED OYSTERS.

Cover the bottom of the pan or dish that you
wish to cook them in (have it well buttered)
with fine bread crumbs, and sprinkle over them
many bits of butter, some salt and pepper.
Lay on this a layer of oysters and so on until
the pan is full as you like. Pour in a teacupful
of oyster liquor. Sprinkle over the last layer
of oysters, bread crumbs, butter, pepper and
salt, and pour over that a teacupful of rich
sweet cream. Wherever the bits of butter
occur, let them be large bits, for oysters need
nothing so liberally as butter; it seems to
develope their flavor perfectly. Bake the top
brown. Send to table immediately, do not let
them stay in oven too long; overcooking is as
bad as too little butter, either ruins them.

Then for tea make an

Then for tea make an

One cup white sugar, 11-2 cups sweet cream, 1 tablespoon butter, 11-2 cups flour, 11-2 cups blanched almonds, 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder, whites of 4 eggs beaten stiff. Bake in one loaf.

Or try some of the following good receipts:

Or try some of the following good receipts:

DRIED APPLE FRUIT CAKE.

Soak 3 cupfuls of dried apples over night in cold water enough to swell them, chop them in the morning, and put them on the fire with 3 cups of molasses; stew until almost soft, add a cupful of nice raisins (seedless if possible) and stew a few moments, when cold add 3 cupfuls of flour, 1 cupful of butter, 3 eggs and 1 teaspoonful of soda; bake in a steady oven. This will make 2 good sized panfuls of splendid cake. The apples will cook like citron and taste deliciously. Raisins may be omitted also spices to taste may be added. This is not a dear but delicious cake.

One of the cousins asked for the receipt for ginger snaps; here is mine for

ginger snaps; here is mine for the feceipt for BAKER'S GINGER SNAPS.

Boil all together the following ingredients: 2 cups of brown sugar, 2 cups of cooking molasses, 1 cup of shortering, (which should be part butter) I large tablespoonful of ginger, I tablespoonful of ground cinnamon, 1 teaspoonful of cloves, remove from the fire and let it cool. In the meantime sift 4 cups of flour and stir part of it into the above mixture. Now dissolve a teaspoonful of soda in a tablespoonful of warm water and beat into this mixture. Stir in the remainder of the flour and make stiff enough to roll into long rolls about 1 inch in diameter and cut off from the end into half inch pieces, place them on well buttered tins, giving plenty of room to spread in a moderate oven, let them cool before taking out of the tins.

DOMINOES.

DOMINOES.

Have a plain cake baked in rather thin sheets, and cut into small oblong pieces the same shape as a domino, but a trifle larger. Frost the top and sides. When the top frosting is hard, draw the black lines and make the dots with a small brush dipped in melted chocolate. These are very nice for children's parties.

Mrs. P. W. QUICKBOERNER, Grantsdale, Mont.

Grantsdale, Mont.

The children will be pleased with little cakes ornamented with the fancy figures and candles which may be bought at the confectioners. Any plain cake receipt, the simpler the better, will answer for this purpose. Frost them with boiling water and powdered sugar, beaten together with a silver knife until it will drop readily from the knife (not run in a stream, but drop in detached pieces.) This is simple and easily made.

These receipts will do for this month, and sweeten you up thoroughly. A Merry Christmas to all from your Cousin Ceres.

HOW I MADE \$100.

My cousin in Pa., wrote me of his success plating knives, forks and spoons. I bought a \$5 outfit from H. F. Delno & Co. of Columbus, Ohio. It plates with gold, silver or nickel. It plates watches and jewelry splendidly. I made \$100 in one month. I can sell a number of platers now and get all the plating I can do at home. This may not interest you Mr. Editor, but many readers may be glad to learn of a chance to make money.

Yours truly,

FRED. EARL.

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Christmas, which is supposed to bring to everybody everywhere the best of good cheer whether it is desired or not, found the quiet town of Tattleback fully prepared to enjoy the blessings of the season. Caleb's political club intended to celebrate the festivity with spirit (of an alcoholic nature), but the ladies of the Tea Table club set to work with a will to ensure an extraordinary good time in a quiet sort of way, by enjoying themselves thoroughly while setting an example to the rest of the population.

Members were notified that the December of Christmas gathering, would be celebrated in an unusual manner, and invitations were extended to all members to bring friends with them. Many of the ladles were busily employed for days previous in contriving and arranging all kinds of decorations for the club rooms, and, from the worthy President down to Bridget, everyone seemed more than ordinarily interested. Miss Wing had written some violet inted poetry of the "sawed off in the middle" order, and had interwoven the words with some wool into a variety of striking couplets for the walls. Here are a few of them:

"The club presents its compliments

poetry of the "sawed off in the middle" order, and had interwoven the words with some wool into a variety of striking couplets for the walls. Here are a few of them:

"The club presents its compliments To all the friends of temperance," in woolen letters faced the entrance to the reception room, and at once bespoke the principles of the club and the class of visitors that were welcome to its portals. Over the mantel-piece of the reception room was to be seen

"We'll guarantee you perfect cheer Without ale, whisky, wine or beer."

Miss Wing prided herself considerably upon some of these "laconics," as she called them, and drew especial attention to one of them, reading:

"Ladies! pause upon the brink—Wed no man who's fond of drink!"
which was intended for the particular benefit of the maiden members of the club who might be, or were waiting to be, tempted into matrimony.

And, twisted over the chandeller in the centre of the reception room was a large bunch of holly and mistletoe, though, as Mrs. Traggle facetiously remarked, she could not see why the latter was there, inasmuch as, the male sex being prohibited admission, it could not be put to its traditional use. In the meeting room the following complets were to be found ornamenting the walls:

"This is the season for joyous greeting," and thus we greet you who come to meeting," and thus we greet you who come to meeting," and this inscription gave universal satisfaction:

"We're Tattleback ladies, determined to win Our battle 'gainst whisky, rum, brandy and gin!" Behind the President's chair was suspended a pretty concet of Miss Wing's:

"Dorothy Cripps, our President

Unquestionably competent!

May the club which she will nourish Be a striking one, and flourish!"

It had been unanimously agreed by those in authority that the Christmas meeting should be of longer duration than usual, and that a slight repast should be served at the offerent tables Bridget was in her element. She was not only a good waitress, custom made, but



A READY MAID AND TO ORDER.

She was here, there and everywhere—the most ubiquitous individual in the club. It really seemed as if she had many pairs of hands, so nimble were they in pouring out tea and coffee, opening bottles of ginger ale, and passing cake, fruit, and sandwiches to the assembled guests. Bridget wore her best Christmas smile and an apron to match, while a general festival air pervaded her costume and manner. She laughed so frequently that it was with difficulty she could get her face straight between smiles, and the echoes of her laughter had not time to leave the building before she burst out afresh.

It was after the ladies had concluded their eating and drinking that the crowd adjourned to the meeting room for business, and Dorothy having rapped for silence began to speak. Her remarks in brief were as follows:

"My friends, at this glorious holiday season, when man and womankind are privileged more than at any other time, to rejoice and give themselves up to pleasure, it is but proper that an institution like our own should observe the occasion fittingly, not simply by the outward display of decorations and emblems, but in the higher sense of feeling and doing good to our fellow creatures. There are fortunately in our town, few that are very poor, and none that are starving, but many to whom a little fruit or other luxury would be a great boon. We have glorious examples before us of what has been done from time immemorial in the way of giving to the poor at Christmas time, and I think I but foreshadow the sentiments of the club when I propose that, while we are transacting ordinary business, Bridget shall be instructed to gather up the fragments of our repast and take them down to the Widow Duckworth and her five little children." (Hear, hear.) "All in favor of this proposition say 'Aye."

The silence was more painfully quiet than Philadelphia—there was no "no" noticeable from Tattleback ladies on a question of that character, or possibly the dissentient would have been recommended for expulsion.

So Bridget's smile br

ing done, the little school mistress took her position in front of the mirror and began to arrange her hair. "Ladies," she said presently, raising her voice loud enough to attract general attention, "though standing before the mirror you will allow that I am



CASTING NO REFLECTION

when I say that Mrs. Rubenstein's gift is like her daughter—a very good looking-lass indeed!"

"What a horrible pun!" whispered Sefina to Maria

"What a horrible pun!" whispered Selina to Maria Pullet.

"Yes, and it's a chestnut, too," answered Maria.
"I used to make the same joke myself thirty—I mean thirteen years ago!"

Meanwhile Miss Rubenstein, a girl of about seventeen summers, and who had just graduated under Miss Wing's care, rose and simpered out an acknowledgement of the compliment in the most approved imported English.

Mrs. Pullet said she trusted that the officers would try to complete their business as rapidly as possible, because this being an extraordinary occasion, and the holiday season at that, it was intended to make the evening one of mirth rather than business.

This remark had the effect of expediting the small amount of business to be transacted, and just as Bridget returned with a happy face and the heartfelt thanks of Mrs. Duckworth, Mrs. Traggle had risen for the purpose of proposing the postponement of serious business until the next meeting, and giving themselves up to enjoyment for the rest of the evening.

Miss Wing was requested to sing an original ditty entitled:

THE MAN.

Who bothers every woman's life
To be a proud and happy wife,
Then gives her naught but care and strife?
A man.

Who swears he'll love her night and day, And all her wishes will obey, Yet after mariage holds his sway?

Who promises earth's great delights When we've gone through the marriage rites, Yet leaves us lonely many nights?

Who looks on us with silent scorn,
Who makes us often feel forlorn,
Who tells us lies night, noon and morn?
A man!

Then why should woman longer be Plunged in such abject slavery, While we've a chance of being free. From man?

Let us a stand for freedom make, And show the man, for woman's sake, That when he weds it's a miss-take, For man!

That when he weds it's a miss-take,
For man!

If it had not been for the obvious meaning of the last line, Miss Wing's song would have been immensely popular, but the peculiar tune given to the ditty caused many members to remain silent in disgust. Mrs. Rubenstein then perpetrated a recitation which it would be simply useless to print without an explanatory key, but which hinged on a certain Gretchen whose lover, she considered, drank too much lager. The girl, not liking the beer-laden breath of her lover, explained to him that the best way to take his breath away was to eat raw onions and Limburger before he visited her. Mrs. Rubenstein's broken dialect, although imperfectly understood, was greatly relished by the audience, and yet no encore was called for.

Somebody caught sight of Bridget passing quietly through the room and she was immediately pressed for a song. Although she admitted that she used to sing well before tunes were introduced, she declined now on the pretext that her voice had got out of order and needed repairs. However, so many members insisted upon her singing, that she finally got up and gave, in a kind of subdued, second-hand basso profundo voice this song of

THE ROSCOMMON MAN.

There once was a man, and he lived in Roscommon, From what I have heard his mother was a woman. And if 'tis all true that I have been told, Sure he once was an infant, but age made him old.

His face was the queerest that ever was seen, It never got washed, so it never was clean, He showed all his teeth when he wanted to grin, And his mouth lay across 'twixt his nose and his chin.

Two legs he had got, for to make him complete, And what was most strange, at the end was his feet. If you'd seen him walking, you'd laugh till you' burst—

For one leg or the other was sure to be first! Now everyone knew that he never left dry ground, And so great was his luck that he never got drowned, For if ever this man had a river to cross, If he couldn't get over—he'd stay where he was!

He did not live long ere arrested by death, Sure the poor fellow died for the want of more breath. And now that he lies in the churchyard to moulder If he'd lived one day more—he'd have been a day

older.

Bridget, it is needless to say, brought down the house, but all entreaties failed to get her to respond to the universal cry for an encore. She explained that she hadn't been heard in public before for many years, and did not think she would be heard again for a long time—not, in fact, until she got her voice in proper working order.

Then it was that, on motion of Martha Jagger, the whole assemblage rose and sang several hymns appropriate to the season, after which Bridget led the way to the most sumptuous repast of which the Tattleback Tea Table Club had yet partaken together. Turkey and cranberry sauce, cold chicken pate's, roast beef with an abundance of vegetables, and plenty of hot coffee, made the record, so far as gastronomical arrangements were concerned, the best ever known to the members.

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If filled with common sense,
Tis wisely said is gladly read
By men at all events,
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In every State and olime,
Will read the verse if bright and terse
About this Christmas time.

When Christmas chimes in olden times
Fell on the listener's ear,
He knew the ring would comfort bring
With plenty of good cheer.
And even so where'er we go
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To all this Christmas time.

To all this Christmas time.

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J. S. G.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

With the January number we inaugurate our series of illustrated articles on the World's Fair and intend to make them especially entertaining and instructive, as the many hundreds of millions of dollars to be represented and expended by the people at this great exhibit calls for more than passing mention, and we feel that Comporn needs to do its share toward acquainting its people with all the details of this vast undertaking. We have also arranged to have articles written by some of the most prominent persons in the country during the coming year. The millionaires of N. Y. and other places will be written up and articles from hosts of new writers from all over the world will appear during the year. Comport is destined to become the most popular monthly ever published, and we invite you all to help increase its circulation by getting new subscribers this month. Our premium offers are such that it will well repay you to work for Comport, and besides we are to give a large number of presents to club getters in addition to regular premiums. Start your club to-day.

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a lintel for stagnent water, dried insects, etc., it answers for a thousand purposes. This elegant polished brass finished gem is an instructor, as well as a great convenience in reading, etc. It has all the contrivances for handling butterflies and other beauties. The top of the instrument can be removed to insert objects for inspection, which include not only seed and grain, but hundreds of other materials, such as insects, bits of cloth, paper, fur, hairs, leaves, flowers, stones, ores, etc.; in fact, anything small enough to insert. It is valuable in detecting adulterations in food, such as flour, tea, coffee, sugar, spices and the fatal trichina spiralis or pork worm. Agents will find this to be the fastest selling article they have ever handled, for its novelty and the wonders it reveals excite the curiosity of the people and they will buy. It sells at sight everywhere. The agent is not considered a bore while showing it, for it interests every one. Each microscope is sent securely packed in a box. Price only 37 cts.; 3 for \$1.00. They have generally sold for \$1.00 singly, but buying in large quantities, we get a low price. Send today and we include a 3 months trial subscription to Cowfort.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



AN EXPLODED IDEA.

WHAT MY TRIP TO MAINE TAUGHT ME.

WHAT MY TRIP TO MAINE TAUGHT ME.

"Daoun East in Maine they pry the sun up with a crowbar" has long been an expression used as a remark of contempt in speaking of Maine and Maine people.

True! Maine has been accorded the distinction of raising and educating a Longfellow, a Blaine, a Hamilin and scores of others who have won more than a national reputation, but at the same time people in general have an idea that Maine is the "jumping off place" for the continent and so far "daoun east" that little good can come from there.

I must admit that I had held the same impression, but I must also confess that in one little Maine city I met and talked with many bright men, one of whom soon dispelled this deep rooted idea, and sent me home a wiser man, and hereafter there will be no greater champion of Maine men and Maine productions than I.

Last week I visited the Capital City of Maine, Augusta, for the first time in my life and after finishing the business that called me there, it was my good fortune to meet a man whose acquaintance I shall not soon forget.

I walked into his pleasant office, to find him surrounded by a corps of clerks and a score of pretty typewriters. He was seated at his desk busily engaged in looking through a voluminous correspondence, but on presenting my card and explaining the reason of my call, he consented to give me a few minutes of his valuable time. I began the conversation by asking him to tell me something about his birth, life, and his work for the people of this country, I will give you his words for it.

"How was that, Doctor?"

"Well, to not know as to that, always ready to accept a joke, perhaps tity of medicine. There I was awarded, at the hands of my fellow students, the name which has clung to me ever since, OLD DR. BROWN."

"How was that, Doctor?"

"Well, you see, my name was Brown anyway, I had that to start with," he replied laughingly. "I was studying medicine and of course had the title of Doctor attached to me as soon as I started to earn that title, and the 'Old' was app

allow the time.

"At last, I realized that I was getting along in years, had accumulated some money, and was a little weary of constant travel, and I decided to settle down and live comfortable for the rest of my days.

"After a few months of quiet I began to think I wanted work more than rest after all, and as a consequence you find me here, like the cat,



PAYING STRICT ATTENTION TO BUSINESS

"While traveling in eastern countries I was very intimate with a well known general, whose name I will not, for family reasons, mention. I was with him for years and in all his affairs he made a confidante of me. He was grateful because my skill helped him many times, but I was unable to do for him all that his condition required.

"After a long companionship we drifted apart. Years had elapsed before I saw him again. I met him in the corridor of a splendid hotel in one of our large cities.

"But what a change—I hardly recognized in this splendid, vigorous man before me, the old friend who had parted from me a broken down, heartless man. Dragging me to his room, he seated me comfortably and over a fragrant cigar he unfolded to me the secret of his new lease on life.

"Well,' he said,' I will first excuse myself for leaving you, my dear friend, in the abrupt manner, at which you must have wondered. I was, as you know, partly from intemperance and partly from the exposure to war and weather, a wreck. I hardly knew which way to turn, but somehow my steps were in the direction of the interior of Africa, for there I hoped to find solitude, even if isolation from civilization's pernicious habits could not restore health.

"I wandered far from the sound of human voice and was alone with the wild beasts and serpents of an unexplored country. I grew weaker and weaker from travel and exposure till one morning's sun found me thousands of miles from friends, home and country, and helpless.

"Great God! what was to become of me? My nerves were all on prickle; my brain on fire. However, I longed for life and strove for existence, but on what could I exist? In my madness I clutched at everything and caught at nothing, but while insane in my desires I was bound to live and start life over again. I happened while lying on the ground to touch my lips to a queer looking, odd shaped vegetable. After eating some the most strange feelings come to my nerves. I became soothed, my brain seemed cool and I grew calm. The nature of my bei

"A young lady writes
me to-day that she has
just passed the critical
period and thanks God
and Old Dr. Brown that
with the taking of
Oxien, nature has been
aided in performing this
change successfully and
started her along toward a strong and
healthy womanhood.
"Another lady writes,
"You have the praises
of a young mother and
her dimpled babe now
and forever. What
would I havedone with-

her dimpled babe now and forever. What would I have done without Oxien? Ever woman in this country should be apprised of the value of your truly good remedy.

Not Oxien? Ever woman in this country should be apprised of the value of your truly good remedy.

Not you have the value of your truly good remedy.

Not you have the value of your truly good remedy.

Not you have the value of your truly good with scrofulous taint. My mother suffered and died. This curse was all she had to leave me. By the use of Oxien I have driven this from my system and with it went the unsightly blotches, freckles, pimples, black he ad s. muddy skin and left my face as fair and fresh as muddy skin and left my face as fair and fresh as the trule of the control of the work in a sensible way. Starts right and soon the stomach is performing its functions with regularity and correctly too. The wise man suffers no logger, but takes Oxien and can eat heantfulers to the stomach is performing its functions with regularity and correctly too. The wise man suffers no logger, but takes Oxien and can eat heantfulers to the sum of the control of the wise man suffers no logger, but takes Oxien and can eat heantfulers in the sum of the control of the wise man suffers no logger, but takes Oxien and as the table."

"Well, Doctor, I feel well repaid for my call and am surprised that such a pleasant little tablet as Oxien is entitled to so much praise. I would have doubted it, had I not seen these letters from your grateful—" "I have not yet told you the greatest good I have accomplished with it," interrupted the doctor. "When La Grippe made its fearful presence known in our midst, I made several careful tests towards a cure. I found Oxien peculiarly adapted to fitting the system to withstand the advances of the system to withstand the advances of the system to withstand the advances of the system to withstand the prove its supremacy, by curing the malady and driving out every trace of the sit but have a subject to the system of the provention of the syste

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both ladies' and gentlemen's size.

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HE glad feast of Xmastide will soon be upon us and then for a brief time at least the world will put aside its schemes of self aggrandizement, halt in its pursuit of riches and lend attentive ear to that glorious message: "Peace on Earth Good Will to Men." The busy mart of commerce will be abandoned, the roar of the workshop will cease and the wheel will hang idle in the stream. This sweet respite will be but a brief one; but its wholesome effect upon the worlowifl be most salutary. Xmas is pre-eminently a feast of hearts, of homes, of hearthstones. By its divine power all the world is resolved into one great family and Paul's words will be strikingly exemplified: For God hath made of one blood all nations of men. Above all is the Xmas feast the one glad festival of all the world is born again and in that glorious regeneration the human heart parts with its selfshness, gives up its cold and calculating ways and loves without setting conditions. All the world is kin to the Christian at this glad season of the year and he is ready to open, his gates to the stranger, to set forth a bountiful feast, and to carry cheer and comfort to every household where they are lacking. The world for good reason might surrender up all its holidays, were this sweet and comforting festival but left to it.

Oh bells of Xmas, fond and dear, The night is spent, the morn is near.

casson might surrender up all its holidays, were this sweet and comforting festival but left to it.

Oh bells of Xmas, fond and dear, The night is spent, the morn is near. Call all the world to set its gifts
Before His feet when daybreak lifts.

Even in the childhood of the world it was the costom to express love and devotion by means of gift-making. The idolater laid rich gifts in front of his graven image, the noble bore gifts to his prince, the peasant to his lord, the lover to his mistress, the slave to his master. But the gift was not only a token of reverence and respect, it was more, it was proof of the forgetimness of self; it was a sacrifice, it was given in ely and while it caused joy to the recipient, purified, ennobled and strengthened the heart of the giver. The Old Testament is full of beautiful instances of gift-making, but not antil the birth of the Divine Child did the world learn the full and deep import of gift-waking as a means of lifting up the soul, of purifying the heart in the retort of unselfishness, of expressing a love too deep for words, a trustfulness beyond the power of language. For many centuries before the birth of our saviour, the wise men of the East had searched most diligently for some cure for man's proneness to love himself better than his neighbor, for some method to touch the human heart and make all the world kin. But they had failed; their wisdom was great, yet they had toiled in vain and hence was it that when the star appeared in the December sky, they made haste to seek out the Divine Child, to open their treasures and lay before him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrch. These were the very had a deep and wonderful import. They were the first sign of the world's acceptance of the new faith and from that moment, a gift at Christmastime took on a sweet and holy significance. No other gift could ever hope to equal it in power to reach the human soul for its own good.

** **

We are quite certain that the following little story will touch a sympathetic chord in the br

the first time. The title of it is:

LITTLE TIM. TUCKER'S XMAS.

Little Tim was an errand boy in the office of William Hollister, a wealthy banker in the city of C—. He had been there for nearly a year, for he had commenced work in January and it was now December. Tim was rather young to go to work, being only eight, but his father had died suddenly and there was no help for it, as there were two younger children than Tim and it was hard enough for his mother to support them. Tim was very proud to earn his own living and regularly every Saturday night he gave his mother the little envelope containing the four dollars. She never failed to kiss him and call him her "little man" and this made him still prouder. But there was one thing that made Tim unhappy at times and it was this: Mr. Hollister had never spoken a single word to him since he had been in his employment. True, Tim's duties never took him into the private office, but still it was necessary for Mr. Hollister to pass through the outer office to reach the private one, and Tim thought that it would only have been civil for Mr. Hollister to give a friendly nod and say good-morning once in a while. Well, it so happened that the very day before Christmas, the head clerk sent Tim into the private office for something; possibly the head clerk didn't think that Mr. Hollister was still there, for it was quite dark. But he was there; sitting at his desk with great piles of papers before him, looking terribly in earnest, he could not have looked more in earnest had he been reading his own death warrant. Tim looked at him and trembled and then made haste to get what he had been sent for; but just as he laid his hand on the door knob, a strange thought flashed across his mind. "Tomorrow," whispered Tim to himself, "will be Christmas. Why not wish Mr. Hollister a Merry Xmas?" Somehow or other, something gave the little fellow courage and facing shout he looked straight at the rich banker and cried out in a cherry voice:

"Merry Christmas Mr. Hollister."

The banker

good care not to let his poor mother know what he

Tim. Tucker's Christmas."

The most delightful characteristic of this festival of Xmastide, is that it is in a great degree the glorification of childhood. And why should it not be? Does it not commemorate the birth of the Divine Child and was He not throughout His life a most ardent lover of children? Did He not take them into His arms and bless them? Did He not warn His people that in order to be completely worthy to be enrolled as His followers they must become as little children, that they must have a simple and childlike faith in Him and in His doctrines, that they must be as it were, born again, that they must put away their so-called wisdom and sit at His feet as the child at its mother's? In a word, did He not when questioned as to who was the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven, call a little child unto Him and having set him in the midst of them, exclaim: Except ye become as little children ye shall not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven? But when once the dear Master no longer lingered among His followers to keep their faith childlike, to set up the sweet simplicity of His own character as a sampler for them, to preserve their hearts untouched by the vanities and weaknesses of the world, and more especially after the new faith began to outgrow its humble surroundings and

His bread for to sell and his rolls for to nawk.

Now a maiden he met on the round hill top,

Not a mile and a half from his own bake shop,

And he planted a kiss

On the check of the miss,

While down the hill basket rolled flippity-flop.

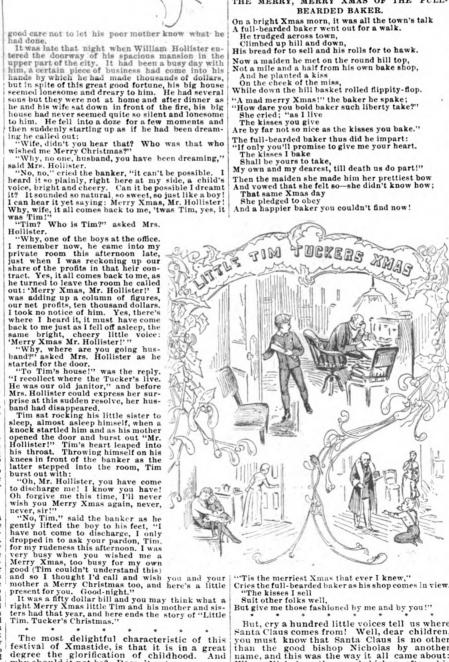
"A mad merry Xmas!" the baker he spake;
"How dare you bold baker such liberty take?"
She cried; "as I live
The kisses you give
Are by far not so nice as the kisses you bake."

Are by far not so like as the kisses you bake.

"If only you'll promise to give me your heart.

The kisses I bake
Shall be yours to take,
My own and my dearest, till death us do part!"

Then the maiden she made him her prettiest bow And vowed that she felt so—she didn't know how; That same Xmas day She pledged to obey And a happier baker you couldn't find now!



you and your "Tis the merriest Xmas that ever I knew," here's a little Cries the full-bearded baker as his shop com-

"The kisses I sell Suit other folks well, But give me those fashioned by me and by you!"

But give me those fashioned by me and by you!"

But, cry a hundred little voices tell us where Santa Claus comes from! Well, dear children, you must know that Santa Claus is no other than the good bishop Nicholas by another name, and this was the way it all came about: When Nicholas the good bishop after his death had been made a saint, he became as all saints do, more popular in some countries than in others. This saint became a great favorite in the eastern countries particularly in Russia, where as you know they name almost every other child after him, and then his popularity spread through northern Europe and in Germany, the little tongues couldn't pronounce the long name Nicholas so they shortened it down to N'Klas or Klaus and when the good name and fame of the saint entered England, the children gave him his real little "Saint Klaus" or Santa Claus! Now you see plainly where Santa Claus came from. In England Saint Klaus or Santa Claus was a great favorite with the school children even hundreds of years ago, and when his birthday came around, some one of the teachers was dressed up in a bishop's garb, a long gown and a long white beard and he went about among the schools and into the houses, too, and distributed sugar plums, nuts covered with gold foil and knicknacks of many sorts among the good children, and then threatened.



brother who have not found health and happiness in this world! Make us children again, that our faith may be acceptable to the Divine Child, whose birth the glad bells are now proclaiming to all the world!

Child, whose birth the glad bells are now proclaiming to all the world!

At a very early age, the new faith adopted the
music of bells as one of the very woices of the
church, so much so that the bell came to stand
almost as a symbol of Christianity, and when
Mohammed established his religion he forbade
its use and ordered his priests to cry out the
hours of prayer from the tops of the mosques.
It is no wonder that the early Christians felt
their hearts so deeply touched by the ringing
of bells. There is something strangely, sadly,
heautifully sweet and tender about their tone.
They speak to the very soul, their music seems
at times to drop from heaven, so tender, so
delicate, so mysterious is it; and yet can it also
be deep and mournful, loud and threatening
In fact, the ringer can transmit his own soul
into it, and toll for the dead or sing gladly at
the approach of bride and groom. The sound
of bells at Xmastide has ever been a comfort and a
delight to the children of Christ, as they peal out in
joyous song the tidings of the Saviour's birth! Hence
is it most fitting that this Xmas greeting of ours
should be ended by a peal from the flofty belifies
where these mysterious instruments of sound hang
with ready tongues and wide-opened mouths. At the
beginning of this article we quoted a few verses from
a poem entitled "The bells of Xmastide," written for
our journal. Without a doubt our readers will be
glad to read the entire poem. Here it is:

THE BELLS OF XMASTIDE.

Wake, bells of Xmas, sweet and mild,
In Bethlehem's manger lies the child.

Swing in the belfries where ye hide
And peal the merry Xmastide!

Call all the world to set its gifts
Before His feet when daybreak lifts.

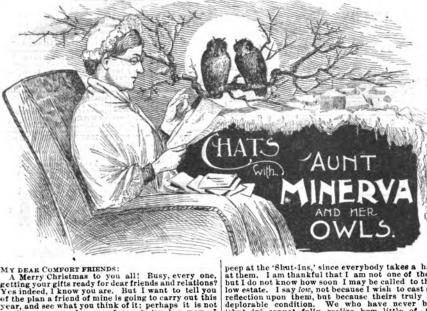
Oh bells of Xmas, fond and dear,
The night is spent, the morn is near,
Swing in the belfries where ye hide,
Proclaim the glorious Xmastide!

Peal out the faith, ye bells of steel,
That valiant Christian soldiers feel,
Ring out the tone from East to West

Peal out the faith, ye bells of steel, That valiant Christian soldiers feel, Ring out the tone from East to West That nerved the templar's armed breast. That nerved the templar's armed breast. Ye brazen bells, proclaim His birth, Good will to man and peace on earth, And let the joyful message sound tritli it girds the world around! Oh brazen bells, fill all the air With solemn summons unto prayer. Ye bells of iron, give forth the cry That made the martyrs smile and die. Ring deep and strong, proclaim His birth And call the old faith down to earth. Warn, bells of iron, the listless souls That drift amid perdition's shoals. Swing silver bells in belfry tower This Xmas morn, this holy hour. Let man no more in darkness grope, Ring out a peal of love and hope. Of blessings which this day hath brought, off love that passeth human thought! of blessings which this day hath broug of love that passeth human thought! Oh, silver bells, ring hatred out, And malice too and poisoning doubt. Ring out deceit and falsehoods wiles, Ring in pure hearts and honest smiles! Ring mammon out and love of pelf, Ring in forgetfulness of self! Ring in that peace which reigns above, Ring in a world of Christian love. Wake, Xmas bells, so sweet and mild, In Bethlehem's manger lies the child; And from the belfries where ye hide Peal forth the merry Xmastide!

There is but one word more to be said and it is this: A merry, a right merry Christmas to COMFORT's army of readers and to each and all of them many re-turns of the glad New Year.

We have a large number of elegant presents which we are going to give away to our club getters, besides and in addition to the regular premiums. To the sender of the largest club sent in each day we are to forward a valuable present during the next 3s days. Suits of clothes, sewing machines, albums, watches, dresses, clocks, roller organs and many articles of silverware and other goods are to be given away in this manner. It is an easy matter to obtain 25c, yearly subscribers to Compore, and all of our agents are meeting with phenomenal success. You will notice that this month we have added extra pages and will add many new features the coming months of '92, so take advantage of our liberal offers at the start.



My DEAR COMFORT FRIENDS:

A Merry Christmas to you all! Busy, every one, getting your gifts ready for dear friends and relations? Yes indeed, I know you are. But I want to tell you of the plan a friend of mine is going to carry out this year, and see what you think of it; perhaps it is not too late to persuade some of you to try her way. I am quite converted to it, myself. Some time in the summer, this lady announced to those of her friends with whom she was in the habit of exchanging gifts at Christmas time (by the way, it is this very system of exchange which spoils the spirit of the day), that she should give no presents this year, and wished to receive none, within her own circle. The money which she usually spends in this way, will be devoted to the poor and sick, and those to whom Christmas is only an empty name. This is carrying out the true idea of giving, as taught us by our Master. "But if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye?"—"but do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again." "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto

Me."
Do not think that I would advise any one to ignore the ties of relationship and friendship so dear to all our hearts. This is not necessary. A loving note on Christmas morning will assure our friends of our remembrance: but the heart-burnings, the jealousies, the bitter feelings which our system of exchanging gifts inevitably arouses, will be replaced by the pleasure of giving where we "hope for nothing again," and the touching gratitude of the poor and lonely ones whom we have helped.

"Shut-In" Soulety Medical Bureau.

For the purpose of aiding the poor and destitute to

For the purpose of aiding the poor and destitute to procure medical treatment and such other aid as our ability will allow, this society has been organized. Those applying for aid will be required to give a reference from pastor or physician, or some disinterested



HERE SHE COMES.

party. "Shut-In" members annual fce, 25c.: associate, 50c. President, Anna Reed, P. O. Box 262, Covington, Indiana; vice-president, Frank Short, Nelson, Mich.; secretary and treasurer, Grace M. Pratt, Mukwonago, Wisc.; advisory and consulting physician, W. E. Anthony, M.D., 64 John St., Providence, R. I. All fees and donations should be sent to Miss Pratt. Now dear cousins, let us all try to make this society an aid and blessing to the poor and afflicted ones.

ONLY.

ONLY.

Only a little wayside flower
Blooming, will please the traveler's eye.
Only a gentle summer shower
Causes the brook to ripple by.
Only a kind word, sweetly spoken.
Brings a ray of hope to the heart.
Only a habit, quickly broken,
Helps us from error soon to part.
Only a whisper of deep contrition
Raised to our Father's loving heart.
Only a thought, will, as a petition,
Cast from conscience the stinging dart.
Only a trust in our loving Saviour
Helps us to bear the bluffs of life.
Only a test parcoss death's river,
We are free from earthly strife.
L. E. BUFFINGTON.

dazzling splendor. Your nephew, H. P. Bell, Big Bend, W. Va."

"There are so many things about which to talk that I do not know just where to begin; but let us take a

There is some good sensible advice in that letter, girls, and I hope those of you who are encouraging the attentions of fast young men will profit by it. Men generally understand their own sex pretty well, and you may be sure that our Carolina cousin knows what he is talking about.

Men generally understand their own sex pretty well, and you may be sure that our Carolina cousin knows what he is talking about.

"I am an Indiana boy. I have to work for my living and consequently I have not much spare time. The column I like best is the chats, I think we can learn so much from them. I think Wm. Te Selle's temperance club is a grand club. Long may it prosper. There's always work for temperance workers, as the field is large and the laborers few. If all the girls would resolve not to let the lips that touch intoxicating liquors and tobacco touch theirs, and keep their resolve, it would possibly be a good thing, as the boys would not like to be left out in the cold, and would try to reform. I never drank any intoxicating liquors or used tobacco, and I have resolved I never should.

"Indiana Cotsin Will."

"I am an old bachelor, but it gives me great pleasure to read the letters in Comport from the young all over this great land of ours. It (Comport) does more than that, it has kept me in my room all this blessed Sunday—where from? you ask—the saloons. Just think, little Comport has opened my eyes to see what a——I have been. I live in California, the land of fruit, grain, honey and gold. Any where in the U. S. is God's country, but California is the first in the rank of all. All kinds of soil are to be found within its borders, and I might say too, all the different climates to be found in the U. S. Here on the sea coast there is very little change in the summer from the winter mont's; in the great Redwood saw mills on the bay it is not unusual to see men at work in the summer months with coat and vest on,

when a few miles back in the woods it is pretty warm to work at all. If there are any who are having the California fever I will be placing myself in the inter-ests of the State to encourage all who have some means to come and settle. Yours, A. L. STUART, Box 299, Eureka, Calif."

Our little Comport has been doing a world of good all over the States, why not renew your own subscriptions today and also give it as a Christmas Present to your friends. The 25 cent pieces invested will bring them much happiness.

them much happiness.

"Cousin William Thames, I should like to shake hands with you. You are a man, if you are a curiosity. You have reason to be thankful for the mother that was given you. It would be a grand, a glorious thing if all the cousins would take the pledge of total abstinence. Oh, that I could write as with a burning pen, to make a lasting impression, these words: Never take the first drink! This is the surest way to escapes drunkard's grave. Tremble before the first step, for with it the other steps to your first fall are taken, and the succeeding ones to your ruin in time and eternity made easy. And you who have children in your care, do not fail to show them the right way in this matter, lest some day the eyes now so bright look at you bleared and bloodshot, while the lips now so pure tremblingly ask, 'why did you not tell me?"

Ennestine Schauer, Juneau, Wisc."

We must always give space for those interesting

AND FIER OWLS

For all the chart steps to your first fall are and eternity most care. And you when have children in your case, do not not be them the right very look at you becard out before the right very look at you becard out blook when the right very look at you becard out blook when the right very look at you becard out blook when the right very look at you becard out blook them the right very look at you becard out blook at you becard you had you becard you had you ha

Creator's greatness. Please write.

CARRIE A. MIL LER, Bearsville, Ulster Co., N. Y."

"I live away up here among the beautiful mountains of North Carolina. The highest mountains east of the Mississippi are situated in this State. This is one of the leading States in the production of tobacco, flax, hemp and all kinds of grain. The vine, fig and peach, with other orchard fruits, are produced, as well as melons, peanuts and sweet potatoes. In the southern sections cotton is extensively cultivated. And this country is progressing very much in the education of her people. Would some of the cousins and Auntle, too, appreciate a few words about the Indians? I live inside of the Indian boundary, and surrounded by a band of Cherokees. Their customs and manners are somewhat amusing. The squaws are seen trudging along with very heavy bundles tied on their backs, consisting of the young Indian, produce, etc., while the men follow along behind with blow gun and arrows, killing birds, or throwing stones at some hornet's nest they may chance to see on the roadside, from two to four half-starved dogs at their feet complete the scene. The Government is endeavoring to educate the Indians here, but finds it hard to turn them from their old ways. Respectfully,

"So many are describing their homeland, I thought too would tell you of our lavels." Western country

Rober. Childers, Birdtown, N. C."

"So many are describing their homeland, I thought
I too would tell you of our lovely Western country.
We live in Southern Wisc., in the county of Green, and in one of the southern townships of the county.
The State line separating Wis. and III. is but 21-2 sation the doorstee eating a thick slice of bread and miles south of us. The country is pleasantly diversified by strips of heavy timber (or it was heavy either woodman's ax made sad havoe there) and rolling prairie. Monroe is our county seat, and it is said to stituated on the highest ground between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river, or 1,083 feet above sea level. The heart of the city is occupied by

the Public Square, in the center of which our new \$35,000 court house is being built. The streets are lighted by electricity. The water supply is found in two large wells, which are dug down into the rock formation called \$1. Peter's sandstone, (which our State geologist says is the best water supplying rock in the State.) The water is forced (by steam) to the top of a high stand-pipe in Lincoln Park and from there distributed in mains under ground to all parts of the city. The Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. and the Ill. Central both have nice depots and abundant freight accommodations within the city limits. Green Co. is composed of 16 townships, each 6 miles square. Thousands of cows are milked in this county and the milk carried every morning and evening to the numerous cheese factories, and to the condensed milk factory at Monroe. The county is famous for its cheese of various kinds, American Swiss, Brick and the highly perfumed Limburger. Through the eastern part of our county the Sugar River flows, and through the southwestern part the Pecatonica. These rivers abound in shells, 'pearl shell,' indeed and in truth. It is but two years since it became known that the shells in these rivers hele many fortunes in their embrace. I will quote a few lines from one of our last week's papers, (Albany is in our county.) 'Editor Thorp of the Albany, Wie, Journal says the pearl hunting interest of that point is by no means dead yet. A man named Murry found five gens in one day recently, and refused \$600 for them. Mr. Thorp says it is estimated that not less than \$175,000 has been paid to Albany people for pearls during the pear hunting interest of that point is by no means dead yet. A man named Murry found five gens in one day recently, and refused \$600 for them. Mr. Thorp says it is estimated that not less than \$175,000 and is now in Paris, where it is reputed to be the finest in the world.'

Box 33, Monroe, Wis.'

"I like to give a helping hand to those in need, but I quite agree with Lone Star, there are very few of us

Thank you for the samples you so kindly sent; they were very pretty.

were very pretty.

"Southern Louisiana is a vast field of waving cane. The tall smoke-stacks of 1,200 factories rise above the clustered roofs of as many plantations. Villages and towns have everywhere arisen under the stimulus of the industry, and the country appears to be teeming with wealth. The planters live in beautiful villas or roomy old Creole residences, rising amid parks and avenues of magnificent live-oaks hung with flowing moss, or surrounded by dark green groves of orange or lemon. They dispense a hospitality which has become proverbial in both continents. They are generally characterized by extravagance in their manner of living. In winter they resort to the expensive hotels of New Orleans, and devote themselves to the social and carnival festivities of the fashionable capital of their section. In summer there is a great exodus to Northern springs and watering-places, or across the Atlantic on European tours. It



GOOD GRACIOUS SAKES ALIVE BOYS! WHAT'S HAPPENED!

seems as if a landed aristocracy is arising in this section, to rival the baronial magnificence of medisval times. I hope we will soon hear from our cousin Mr. De Vere. I will ask an Indian boy to correspond with me. 'Votre neveu Louisianais.'

R. H. PLAISANCE, Convent P. O., St. James, La."

The cousins have been demanding bright, cheery etters, and here I find one which just answers to that description.

The cousins have been demanding bright, cheery letters, and here I find one which just answers to that description.

"May I poke my nose in here? Do you care for a new acquaintance? 'Who am I?' I'll produce my references in a minute, if they are not satisfactory, give me the cold shoulder, and I'll step quietly ou again. Though for many years a resident of Connecticut, I was born in the smoky old manufacturing town of Brimingham, England. The house in Inglby St. where these eyes first saw daylight (or I think it was lamplight) has at present no marble slab to my precious memory. This cold world takes creatures like me for granted. But revenge may come—who knows—the very bricks of that forgotten house may yet fetch their weight in gold. In fact I advise any one contemplating a European trip, to visit that Inglby St. house at once and secure a few bricks while they are cheap, 'twould be a good business investment. But ere you start, let me be candid with you. I am not sure I was born there at all. That is, I don't remember it. It is one of the few things I have to take for granted. One of the first things I do remember was in another house, opposite to Gillott's steel pen factory. You all know Gillott's steel pens, so now you half know me, don't you, for I lived opposite in a little brick house up an entry. Gentle readers, I am sorry to make the confession, but the first picture my memory furnishes in the camera-like vision of my life, is of a naughty little girl outside a green door, kicking and crying with all her might. I'm afraid of that cold shoulder of yours now, but truth must be told in this case.

"My parents, through no fault of theirs, were very poor. I've heard of such a thing as the tablectoh being shaken out at the back door at dinner time to give to the neighbors an appearance as if we had dined, when our empty stomachs denied the fact. I have heard how the same cloth was spread in despair when there was nothing to put upon it, and how the prayer went up, Give us this day our daily bread, and how s

I am going to let the cousins have a little talk together on the temperance question this month, as a great many letters have been received displaying an interest in that subject. All remember our Comfort Temperance Club. (President, Wm. Te Selle, Box 330, Sheboygan Falls, Wisc.)

Temperance Club. (President, Wm. Te Selle, Box 330, Sheboygan Falls, Wisc.)

"Some of the cousins, I see, write about novel reading, some about the temperance question, etc. Now, I shall try to say my say about the latter, for I think that drunkenness, or the whiskey habit, is the greatest curse that ever visited this earth; indeed, it is far worse than the ten plagues of Egypt, or anything I can call to mind. O why don't all Christian people unite, and, by the help of their leader, Jesus Christ, overthrow this greatest foe to civilization, this curse of our age, the demon of drink? O cousins and all good people, it lies with you, and you, to unite, and, with one mighty effort, forever overthrow Satan's power on earth. Let us appeal to our friends and to every person to unite with us, uproot and teardown saloons, and stop this great curse. Just think of the amount of money that is annually spent for intoxicating drinks. As has been said, 'Civilization means a small amount of gospel and an overwhelming amount of whiskey. Let us reverse this and make it read, 'a small amount of whiskey and an overwhelming amount of whiskey. Let us reverse this and make it read, 'a small amount of whiskey and an overwhelming amount of yospel.' Let us never cease in our trying till the dark clouds disappear which envelope us; and the blessed religion of the Lamb of God diffuses its sweet influence around us in dazzling splendor. Your nephew.

H. P. BELL, Big Bend, W. Va."

H. P. BELL, Big Bend, W. Va."

It is enough to do one's heart good to hear such earnest words from the young men on this important question. I hope many more are willing to take this stand.



EACH COUSIN A SANTA CLAUS.

If you have not time to obtain New Subscribers, let each cousin become a Santa Claus. What better gift than a 26c, yearly subscription to our monthly can you give yourself or friend, and if it is so you can get up a Club and obtain an elegant Album, Tea Sct or other valuable articles Free. You also stand a chance of receiving a \$55. Sewing Machine, Watch, Clock or one of the many other presents that we are to give in addition to regular premium offers. Better try now,

what was enting compared to that inward longing! The bargain was struck. The next day was Sunday. I came down to breakfast a little late. What did I behold on the table—toast! What aluxury! I always did love toast. In a moment! was munching a brown crisp slice, entirely forgetful of my recent vow. My father watched me awhile with twinkling eyes, then slyly inquired, 'How about that doll carriage?' I dropped my toast, my face dropped too. 'I forgot,' I said meekly, and looked doubtfully at the toast and at my father. 'I think you had better finish your breakfast,' he said; and rather gladly I did, though my disappointment was great. It had seemed so easy not to eat. How nice it would be now to say that the carriage came after all, but oh no, it never did, there was nothing to spare for such trifles. But lest I tire your patience let me say briefly, that matters grew worse and worse till a crisis happened which sent us to this befoved land where honest labor is rewarded and ability recognized. Should you care to follow the child across the ocean, she remembers many things concerning that three weeks' voyage? Those in favor say 'Aye.' F. E. M., Wallingford, Con.''

I shall say Aye, for one; and am quite sure that most of the cousins will follow my example.

wite at the expense of his own stands extracted his and ability recognized. Should you care to follow the child across the ocean, she remembers many the control of the child across the ocean, she remembers many the control of the control of the child across the ocean, she remembers many the control of the

Now we must close our pleasant talks. When we come together again, it will be in the New Year; and as we want to start in with as large and happy band as possible, let each one obtain at least one new subscriber as a Christmas or New Years offering to Compostroper of the Editor informs me that starting with the January No, illustrated articles, descriptive of the glorious World's Fair will be commenced, for it will require more than one year to give the Cousins any sort of an idea of the magnitude of the wonderful exhibition that will require so many millions of dollars to inaugurate and if possible let each Cousin constitute a "Santa Claus" so that the stockings can all contain a copy of COMPORT.

I will leave you this time with my best wishes for the holiday season.

AUNT MINERVA.

(Care of COMPORT.)

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If you will write Old Dr. Brown, Augusta, Maine, he will send you a remedy he has found to be a positive preventive and cure for that dreaded disease which has stricken down so many millions with that awful coughing, sneezing, backaching malady

\$500 REWARD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.

"Dunno as I blame her," said Teena, "it's seven years since the old general died. I was second girl then, and I know for a fact how Miss Celia persuaded him to alter his will and leave money to Miss Grace, that's what she was then, well, I don't guess she could a' been more'n seventeen then. And I remember how after they had sent the telegrams they waited and waited. And the general made Miss Celia get out the papers and find out about trains. It was only from Chicago, for they were there then. And he'd keep asking the time saying, 'Do you think she'll come this time, daughter?" He did it till the hour before he died, for Miss Celia never showed him the telegram she got."

"Yee, I remember," said Maddox, who had heard the story plenty of times before.

But it was the first time for Lizzic, 'the other auditor, who was curious. "Didn't Miss Celia ever show the telegram?" said she.

"No, but I know. I knew the telegraph man and he told me. It said, 'I cannot come,' and not another word."

"So he died," said Lizzie in an awestruck voice, "and without seeing her? Goodness me!"

"Yes, but the last words he said before he fell asleep and he never rightly did wake up from that sleep, was to give little Gracie his love. He was sorter wandering then and kept thinking she was just a little thing."

"And did Miss Celia give her his love?"

"Yand did Miss Celia give her his love?"

"Yand bather her if she never speaks a mortal word to her."

"But she was so young," urged the more merciful Maddox, "and you and I know, Teena, that young girls is awful fools."

So the philosonbers in the kitchen discussed her tragedy, while alone over the gray ashes of the fire, Miss Celia watched all night through with her memories.

She went back step by step through the quarrels. Did they look so unpardonable now that the slight

tragedy, while alone over the gray ashes of the fire, Miss Celia watched all night through with her memories.

She went back step by step through the quarrels. Did they look so unpardonable now that the slight creature that had caused them was past all mischiefmaking in her grave?

Vain, selfish, ignorant, playing with a grave man's honor as if it were tinsel, taking to hysterics and her bed whenever her husband refused her anything, flying into tropical rages and equally tropical remorses, frantically jealous of little Grace's affection for her sister, and utterly reckless in her wiles to win the child, yet generous, devoted to Grace a creature without a conscience, surely, but not without a heart, "in ever liked her, I could not like her anywhere," said Celia honestly, "but I might have been kinder to her." And even the end did not seem so inconceivably black as before. What could this brilliant little creole who never could keep the principles of the two parties distinct, know about public honesty or public honor? She took the tremendous bribe offered her quite complacently until she perceived her husband's horror. And he—he extracted his wife at the expense of his own stainless reputation. He saved her—and never forgave her.

Neither had Celia forgiven her until now. But Grace, Grace was different. If she was her mother's daughter, so too, was she her father's, with his very eyes and smile, his very courage Celia knew well. (for do you suppose she had not listened eagerly, to the talk about her sister? Listened, looking the other way, and not seeming to hear) his honor and his pride.

The chimas were ringing again:

"Star of wonder, star of might.

Star with glorious beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding.

Guide us to the perfect light!"

Miss Celia knell down sobbing: "I can't feel it is right to forgive her. I can't! I can't!

right to forgive her, I can't! I can't!

CHAPTER II.

Reggy's donkey and cart were waiting for him in the morning, so was his miniature typewriter as well as a gaudy company of books and toys; and in the first rapture of his riches he seemed to have forgotten any other desire.

It is true there was one dampening moment when he stood searching every corner of the room, in a single, blank, solemn glance. But it was only a moment; he said not a word, and then he was off for his donkey, howling and skipping with joy.

Miss Celia (who looked pale though smiling) went away to church, quite relieved about him. Privately, I think Miss Celia would have given a pretty penny to the poor box could she thus have purchased leave to stay at home. She dreaded the leisure to think, the music with its memories, the softening influences of the season. Miss Celia did not want to be softened, she wanted to be hardened. But there would be the talk if such a regular attendant stayed away, and there were the Rollins invited to dinner. Miss Celia donned her black velvet gown and fastened her laces with her diamond brooch and put a large white silk handkerchief over them under her pelisse, and Maddox tied her bonnet strings and gave her a new pair of gloves out of the sachet; and she went to church.

How much or how little the service and the sermon did for Miss Celia's soul, I cannot say; but I know that she fixed her mind sternly on certain worldly subjects (for instance, Reggy's kindergarten) and heard as little as Dr. Rollins' mediodious and magnetic voice would let her, about "the greatest of these."

The Rollins were late in joining her in the vestibule; the reason for which instantly appeared, in spite of Mrs. Rollins' warning elbow.

"You must excuse us, Miss Wilder," said the rector, "the fact is Mrs. Dubarry was just telling us, Mrs. Brace's little girl has been kidnapped." Here, aware of the elbow, he turned his mild, inquiring countenance on his wife.

She certainly was not so conscientious as he for she asked him if he wasn

"I don't understand," said Miss Celia, "shan't we walk on?"
They walked on, Dr. Rollins in his turn explaining, "Mr. Brace, of course, thought the child was safe. In the house, they supposed she was with him. He met—well, Miss Wilder, it was I whom he met and we chatted together pleasantly, he is a very cultivated, noble young fellow, Mr. Brace," (Dr. Rollins could not resist the opportunity) "and not a bit spoiled by his money; I like to talk to him. After he left me, he returned to the house, and then, for the first time discovered that the child was missing. No one had seen her since she left with her father. There was instant search and inquiry. Nothing was found, Only as nearly as they could calculate at the time of Gracie's disappearance, a veiled woman in a long cloak was hanging about the yard."

"I don't believe she took the child," said Mrs. Rollins, "people don't rig themselves up in striking clothes when they are going to kidnap babies."

Miss Celia asked no questions, but inwardly she was in a flame. Had it been any other woman in the town, she would have sent Feretzle with proffers of sympathy and aid, now, she was silent, she let the talk flow over as a rock does not resist the high tide. At dinner, the very servants were agitated. She could catch whispers in the butler's pantry. Elna, the Swedish nursemaid, had stopped at the kitchen in passing, to tell her story of grief and frantic search. The police were scouring the town and the two towns across the river. Every house in the neighborhood had been visited, every foot of the Brace's house and stable searched. While they sat at table, with the flowers and light, they could hear the crier shouting a description of the lost child, and presently they saw a boy run by over the snow, with his arms heaped with posters.

Dr. Rollins said, "That is the boy from the printing office with the offer of the reward. Five hundred dollars offered. They will be pasted all over the city before nightfall." He had just returned from search-

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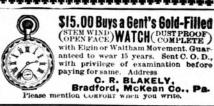
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GENTS WANTED. THIS WATCH FREE. This contist a correct picture of the watch we offer. Is warranted a good timekeeper, Fine nickel-plated case, the face protected by a heavy bevel glass crystal. The works are Swiss make inely seveled. It has an entirely new patent winding arrangement found in moother watch. No key required. It keeps as good time as watches costing 525 to \$55. Is not a toy or Waterbury. OUR OFFER We will send 1,000 Watches free every month to 1,000 persons answering this advertisement who will help us extend the circulation of our Magazine. If you want a watch send us names of 20 readers, only one of family, and 25 cents to pay for the Magazine one year ontrial.

YOU GAN O EVERY HOUR YOU WORK

well. Do n lars free. No goods in the market bring in OASH qu CLIPPER MFG. OO., 547 W. 6th St., Cincinna Ba Grand opportunity. Write to-day.



A beautiful, rich toned instrument, producin soft, delightful music. You can learnt o play a once, even though entirely ignor rant of music. The notes are marker and of music. IMPORTED CONCERT FLUTE. once, even though entirely ignorant of music. The notes are marked and the music we send with it is unbered in like manner, instead of high printed in notes. You can learn no of the capices in a few minutes, strong, durable entirement; will lass lifetime. Elegantly finished. Cannot to out of the durable entire as explained above freet saisfaction guaranteed. Send at one, and in the Concert Fitter you will da joy forever." Postpaid, 25 cents.

nave "A thing of beauty and a joy forever." Postpaid, 25 cents address, BATES & CO., 74 Pearl St., BOSTON, MASS.

FREE. SUPERB FORM. These are my portraits, and on account of the fraudulent airpumps, "wafers," etc., offered for development, I will tell any lady FREE what I used to secure the tellings. HEALTH (cure the country of the

ADAM BEDE.

ADAM BEDE.

There is a quality of truth pervading George Eliot's novels. They are not works of imagination entirely, rather copies of real life. I do not mean that all her characters are real. The highest praise she has received compares her genius to Shakespear's, like his it won acknowledgement without social position and personal influence.

"Adam Bede" represents the humble English life, pictured by a master hand, and is valued for its truth to nature. It is also of historical interest.

Is a life, interest.

The hero. Adam Bede, is a type of the author's father, and is a faithful, hard working carpenter. He falls in love with a beautiful girl of his own class, who is vain and silly. Her beauty seemed made to turn men's heads, she is 30 innocently bewitching. But she has already fallen in love with the young squire of the village, a good-natured, kind-hearted fellow, but thoughtless and lacking in strength of character. Adam discovers the attachment between Hetty Sorrel and the young squire, and is not able to control his anger and jealousy. He quarrels with the squire and knocks him down, and makes him promise not to see Hetty again, and to write her a letter explaining that he can never marry her because his station in life is so much higher than hers. This letter of cruel disappointment nearly crushes her. The squire has duties which call him away from the for many years.

cruel disappointment nearly crushes her. The squire has duties which call him away from the village, and he does not return there to live for many years.

Hety strangely accepts the renewed attentions of Adam. "The noblest nature is often blinded to the character of the woman's soul that beauty clothes."

At last Hetty cannot stand it any longer and she runs away. The tragic part of the novel is a vivid painting of her dreary wanderings and terrible sufferings as a ruined girl and her trial for abandoning to death her infant child. The inexorable law of fate drives her into obscurity from which she never returns.

The humor of the novel is in the finely-pictared character of Mrs. Poyser. She is represented as a shrewd and thrifty English farmer's wife, and the maker of many trite and witty remarks. One of these is, "It's but little good you'll do awatering the last year's crops."

Dinah Morris, the heroine, a niece of Mrs. Poyser's, is a Methodist preacher. The art of faction has nothing more touching or elevated than the delineation of the motives that moved Dinah in her religious life. In speaking to Mr. Irwine about her vocation, she says, "Some times it seemed as if speech came to me without any will of my own, and words were given to me that came out as the tears come, because our hearts are full and we can't help it. I had never thought it could be so with me before a congregation of people. But we are led on by a way that we know not. I was called to preach quite suddenly, and since then I have never been left in doubt about the work that was laid upon me."

Mr. Irwine, the village rector, was one of those few men who are best known in their home life, where they show thoughtful care for the daily wants of daily companions.

Adam's brother Seth, a weaker character, is deeply in love with Dinah, but she refuses to become his wife, and afterwards she falls in love with Adam, who has learned to adore her. Their mutual love is a beautiful thing, showing how love's divine elements can animate the points and t

The story closes with a finely-drawn picture of Dinah and her two little ones accompanied by Uncle Seth, going to meet Adam as he comes from his work. "To walk by Dinah's side, and be tyrannized over by Dinah's and Adam's children, was Uncle Seth's earthly happiness." Mrs. C.S. Hubbard, Ottawa, Ills.

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HOW to play the Guitar without notes or teacher Add. Prof. MURDOCK, Cleveland, O.

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wind and stem set. They come in dealers at from \$25 to and Gents' sizes. This watch if from 100 to \$100. THE FAMILY CIRCLE to a solid from 100 to \$100. THE FAMILY CIRCLE to a solid strength of the set of the s



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In Cash Prizes, Gold Watches, Sewing Machines, Silk Dresses, Silver Watches, &c.,

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The above Rebus is the name of a woman. She rules over the most powerful European nation, and is recognized the world over as the greatest and foremost woman of English speak-ing countries. Who is she?

greatest and foremost woman or English speaking countries. Who is she?

\$200 will be given to the First Person sending the correct answer. \$100 will be given to the Third, and the next 10 Persons will be given \$5 each, and to each of the next 100 Persons will be given the New Hunting Case, Gold Plated American Time-piece. Stem wind and stem set; warranted for five years. With your answer you must enclose fifty cents in postage stamps for Two Full Pifty Cent packages of the best Family Medicine in the world. It is warranted to care Indigestion, Constipation, Biliousness, Liver Complaint, Sick Headache, Nervous Debility and Consumption.

Consumption.

Each purchaser will also be given an article required in every household worth \$12 cash. Thousands of testimonials and the best evidence on

we give away these premiums in order to more thoroughly introduce our goods, believing this method of advertising will pay us better than any other. Full satisfaction guaranteed, and full list of awards will be sent each applicant. Contest will close Jan. 30th, 1892. Address,

AMERICAN REMEDY CO., 92 John St., New York.

case, stem wind and stem set, filted with a fine 11 jeweled patent lever movement, expansion balance and latest improvements. Every watch is carefully inspected to that we know it to be in fine running order before we send it to you. Wewill prepay the express you in order that you may examine it and judge for yourself, and without costing you acent. If you do not find it all that is advertised and the best watch for the money in America, do not take it, if it is satisfactory, pay the express agent \$5.98, and the watch is yours.

SPECIAL OFFER. With each watch we send an agreement to replate same FREE should the gold BRADFORD CO. 402 Mercay.

plate show wear within ten years. BRADFORD CO. 407 Monon Blk. Chicago



This joke is enjoyed by the best, As you press my side, I do the rest. As you see, it is a clam; it can be worn as a Badge, or a harm. As it is something new and quite a novelty, it will eattention of everybody; they will want to look at it, rat thing they know will be a a team of the side of



Full Nickel-Plated, Rubber Stock, Center Fire. Entire length 8 inches. Weight 16 ounces. 33 or 88 calibre. Only 3½ in barrel. Long fluted cylinder. Five Shooter and a beauty. Cut This Our and send it with your order and we will ship the Revolver to you by express C. O. D. If on examination at the express office you could be supposed to the same of the

\$1000.00 IN PRESENTS



for GUESSES on this REBUS

which represents something good to eat. WHAT IS IT? We will give the first person sending us a correct answer on or before Saturday, January 30th, 1882.

\$125.00 in CASH. To the second, \$75 in CASH. To each of the next ten A \$0.10 COLD WATCH (not plated but \$50lid Cold) with genuine American movement. To each of the next five A \$50.00 SinCER IMPROVED HICH ARM SEWING MACHINE. To each of the next ten, A HANDSOME SILK DRESS PAITERN of 14 TO 18 VARDS. You can choose between black, gray, blue, green, brown or wine color, and we will send the

TO 18 VARDS. You can choose between black gray, blue, green, brown or wine color, and we will send to color of your choice. To the next twenty will send to each one a handsome CENUINE SOLD NICKEL SILVER CASED WATCH With ganute American movement, stem wind and set. We send these reminums the same day your answer is received; all express charges prepaid, to the limit set is received; all express charges prepaid, to the limit had offer. With your answer to the rebus we equite you to send thirty cents, and we will mail of the limit of the solder will announce the results of the offer, and the names and full address of every the offer, and the names and full address of every the winner will be printed. This offer is made solely no advertise our publications and introduce them into homes. We are well able and shall promptly give all we offer to those who guess this rebus as above offered. Square dealing is our most of. Postage stamps taken—we use them. Give your full name and F. O. address. Our address is:

American Household Guest, 215 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.



To the first person who can tell us before Saturday January 30th, 1892, what common wild flower is repre-sented by the picture in this advertisement, we will give To the first person who can tell us before Saturday, January 50th, 1829, what common wild flower is represented by the picture in this advertisement, we will give One Hundred Dollars Cash; for the next, to the next to the next so the next so the next so the property of the next so the next so



Good-morning, sister Bees! are you just full of ideas and plans for Christmas? I am sure you are; I can see the pretty things you are going to tell us about, popping out of every pocket and satchel. I am glad that little snow of last night did not discourage you from coming; it is only a foretaste of what we may expect this winter, and we might as well get used to it.

to it.

All ready? No, Susie, we shall try no crocketed edgings this time, or bedspread blocks either; there are more important matters for our consideration. Who speaks first? Oh, what a buzzing! one at a time, please. Mrs. Lyle, you have the floor.

"I want to tell you about some of the pretty articles to be made from chamois skin. The soft yellow color is very attractive, and if one fancies, a gray or dark red may be obtained. A handsome

GLOVE CASE, fifteen inches long and six inches wide, has its upper part of chamois skin, two-thirds of the surface made into openwork by cutting out with a sharp knife little triangular and odd-shaped pieces. Each opening is bordered with a line of gilding and then with a narrow painted pink band. The word "Gloves" is lettered with pink on one end of the case and the two ends are cut into fringe to the depth of one inch and three-quarters, each strand being one-quarter of an inch wide and showing on the bottom the line of gold and the painted pink band. The chamois portion is then lined with pink silk, which shows through all the openings; the bottom of the case is also of pink silk laid over sheet cotton, on which heliotrope sachet powder is plentifully sprinkled, and is caught down in irregular tufts or else quilted. A puff of the silk finishes the edges.

Something which is very easily made, yet exceedingly useful, is an

EYE-GLASS CLEANER.

Cut a piece of writing paper in the form of a

Cut a piece of writing paper in the form of a heart, and from this pattern make two hearts of soft, smooth chamois; bind each with narrow lavender ribbon, and on one heart draw a pair of eye-glasses in outline with a fine pen and ink, after first sketching them in pencil. Overhand the two hearts together forming a bag, with the opening at the top of the hearts; finish by ornamenting the point at the bottom with a bow of the narrow lavender ribbon. The chamois is excellent for rubbing the glasses free from all dust.

chamois is excellent for rubbing the glasses free from all dust.

CHAMOIS CASE

for scarf pins and studs, which will be a welcome addition to a gentleman's traveling outfit, is made as follows: A strip of chamois ten inches long and five wide should be cut at one end in a rounding point and the edge pinked all round. Line it with eider down fiannel, which is to be blind-stitched just inside the pinking. A little flat bag to hold the studs is to be sewed near the straight end of the flannel before it is put on the chamois. Fold the case over several times, putting a hook on the point and a silk loop on the outside to fasten it. A piece of the dark red chamois skin sold for polishing sliver is the prettiest to use for this purpose. The outside of the case may be plain or decorated as the fancy of the maker may suggest."

"So hard to know what to make for a gentleman," says Minnie May; "and we girls who have brothers are often in despair. (A general buzz of assent from all the Bees.) "Last Christmas Jack had the most practical

mas Jack had the most practical
whisk holders
given him, and I will describe it. For a gentleman, a whisk-holder is often a useful present,
but whisk-holders, if too elaborate, are abominations—pretty they can never be—and therefore the simpler, the more suggestive of use
and strength they are, the better in every way.
A pine board, twelve by six, is stained, gilded
or covered neatly, with any desired material,
and to it is nailed, with brass-headed tacks,
a five-pointed star, which has previously been
cut from cardboard, and covered with plush, or
velvet, or any material which will accord with
the background. The star is so nailed that two
points, one at the top and one below, are left
open and loose, and through these the whisk is
slipped.
"There," says Prairie Balle."

"There," says Prairie Belle," "I have just thought of some cute little things I saw last year at a fair, and will tell the Bees about them One was a

year at a fair, and will tell the Bees about them One was a

BHOE-BUTTON CHATELAINE.

Make a little bag of sage-green silk two inches and a half long, with a pocket on one side for the thimble; fill the bag nearly full of shoe buttons; then make a small needle-book of the same silk with leaves of flannel for holding the large, strong needles; next take a half a yard length of many strands of heavy, stout, black linen thread, and after folding in the centre, braid the thread loosely in one piece. Now make a flat bow of sage-green ribbon and fasten a large safety-pin on the under side by sewing it to the bow. This bow is intended to be pinned at the waist. Suspend the thread, button-bag, needle-book, a pair of scissors and a piece of beeswax with narrow sage-green ribbons sewed on the under side of the bow and varying in length, but averaging half a yard. Or they may all be fastened to a bone ring, which can be bought at the harnessmakers.

Then there were some little

Then there were some little

BAGS.

A set of three bags, one for spools, and two smaller, for buttons, forms a useful adjunct to a work-basket. Very pretty ones have circular bottoms of pasteboard. For the button bags these should be an inch and a half in diameter. Cut two rounds of pasteboard and cover one with the material, the other with the lining. Take a strip of any material you fancy, velvet, silk, wool, or pretty cotton, ten inches long and four wide. If velvet or silk, it must be lined; if wool or cotton, allow for a hem at top, with a casing below it. Sew the ends of the strip together, and line or hem, as the material calls for. Run the casing three-quarters of an inch from the top. Gather the band to the bottom of the bag, and run either elastic or narrowribbon in the casing to close the mouth of the bag.

The spool bag should be just twice the measures of the button bags.

The bags may be crocheted in any color of zephyr or Germantown wool. Crochet a flat bottom three inches across for buttons, six for spools, and then crochet round and round, neither increasing nor decreasing in size until the bag is large enough. Finish off with open stitch for cord and tassels, with a shell above the row of open stitches. Or they may be made of chamois, button-hole stitched on the edge with embroidery silk and ornamented with outline work. "Button, button, who's got the button?" is an appropriate motto for such bags. Cut button-holes at regular intervals, half an inch or an inch below the mouth of the bag, to run the strings in.

Cases for crewels, for darning-cotton, or embroidery silk in skeins, may be made by the merest novice at needle-work, and are among the most convenient of small conveniences for the work-basket. They are merely two pieces of sateen or silk, gray linen or silesia, joined together on the sides, with casings run across from top to bottom. The skeins are pulled through the casings, and the projecting ends cut. Nothing but silk or sateen should be used for silks, as woolen or gray linen is apt to fray them. A few leaves of flannel to hold needles may be stitched at one side of the cases, and strings can be added to tie together when rolled up."

"I want to be heard right now," exclaims Mrs. Frank Hyde, springing up eagerly; "speaking of bags has reminded me of some I have seen, not exactly like those of which Prairie Belle speaks, and I would like to tell about them before I forget. The first one I call a

speaks, and I would like to tell about them before I forget. The first one I call a

Six small sister bags, each complete in itself, are joined to a six-sided cardboard bottom and stitched together halfway up the sides. The tops are separated by the distinct casings and tapes, and there are tiny gilt rings attached within to the corner of each bag, with a single drawing-ribbon passed through. Buttons, needles, hooks and eyes, thimble, tapes, etc. are kept apart in neatness, and the spools are put in the centre. When made of ribbon or silk, this makes a nice bag for the different embroidery silks.

For an ordinary work-bag, a pretty, light cretonne is a good material to use. This is a nice pattern for a guest chamber work-bag when made of pretty stuff. Filled with the conveniences of thread and needles, shoe buttons, tapes, etc., which even an over-night guest so frequently needs.

I have a charming work-bag made from a silk kerchief, (a square of pongee or foulard is less expensive.) Turn the corners back on the kerchief, ornamenting each with a small flower in South Kensington embroidery, or with a tiny ribbon bow. Stitch a narrow ribbon around the kerchief below the corners to form a casing. Narrower ribbon or silk tape run in this casing serves to draw the square into a bag, or allow it to lie open flat upon the lap, at pleasure. There must be two strings to pull, one against the other, and the length of each should be equal to the circumference of the bag."

"Perhaps I cannot contribute much to the circle to-day," speaks up Ruth Martin from a distant corner, "yet I will tell of some little things which are easily done, and are as acceptable often as a more expensive gift.

Last Christmas I made a

for a friend who was continually losing the ball out of her lap, and it proved quite useful. First cut out a round piece of pasteboard. Cover this on both sides with silk, then take another piece of silk, gather it around the pasteboard, put in some narrow ribbon at the top and gather up.

A dainty

put in some narrow ribbon at the top and gather up.

A dainty

HANDKERCHIEF SACHET

is made of a square envelope of Irish linen. Paint a few small flowers on the front and with gilt paint trace a number of graceful unconventional lines. A little bag of cotton battir gis filled with sachet powder, slipped inside and the envelope sealed. Wind one yard of very narrow ribbon about the envelope crossing at the back and knot at the side with several loops and ends.

I doubt if I ever sent anyone a gift that gave more abiding pleasure than one, the inspiration of which came to me a year or two ago, in behalf of a dear invalid friend. She is confined very closely to the house, and I used to think of her especially on the Sabbath, for she cannot go to church. For many years it has not been her privilege to sit 'in the great congregation.' So in a dainty little blank-book I put down the dates of every Sunday of the year to come, and under these headings I copied some tender or cheery bit of prose or poetry, and a verse from the Bible, adapting them as far as possible to her special needs. It was truly a bit of sunshine to her, and her continual enjoyment of it gave me great pleasure."

"Yes, Sister Ruth," says Aunt Patience, "we do get so much more joy from gifts like that, that I sometimes resolve to give no others, but confine my Christmas generosity wholly to the poor, the sick and the lonely. But custom is very exacting, and in obeying its mandates, we lose much of the true spirit of Christmas."

"Just one thing more, girls—Oh, Aunt Patience I did not mean to interrupt! Were you all through talking?" I was only going to say you

"Just one thing more, girls—Oh, Aunt Patience I did not mean to interrupt! Were you all through talking? I was only going to say, you know how your cologne bottle always tips over every time the bureau gets a shake. Everybody's does the same, of course, and a pretty present for some of your friends will be a

round. Work 31 more rows like the 3rd; then work a row of holes by putting 1 dc between the shells, ch 2, 1 dc in middle of shell.

Next row.—Ch 2, * 2 dc, ch 1 and 2 dc (shell) in one hole, 1 dc in next hole, repeat from * until you have 8 shells, join.

Next row.—Ch 2, 3 dc, ch 1 and 3 dc (shell) in middle of each shell. Work 3 more rows like the last. Finish with 6 dc in each shell; 1 so between the shells. Run ribbon up and down length of bottle between the shells, and leave two ends long enough to tie. Suspend the bottle and case by these.

And that reminds me (no, I am not going to talk all day, even if my name is Chatterbox! of what I made for Tom's birthday, and he was so delighted. It was a

CROCHETED COVER FOR UMBRELLA.
One ball and a half of knitting silk, any color preferred. A small brass ring, size to slip over the end of umbrella.
Crochet 36 double crochet stitches under the

Next row.—I do in each do.
Repeat the last row until the cover is the desired length. Then crochet a row of holes. Finish with a scallop. Run a ribbon through the holes and tie in a bow.

Must we close this interesting meeting?
Sister Bees, I believe this is the most profitable session we have had. Next time, when the Christmas rush is all over, we will devote a whole day to crocheted edgings and tidies; so all who do not crochet, take warning, and stay at home.
Good-bye, good-bye! a Merry Christmas to all, and a safe journey home!
BUSY BEE, (Care of COMFORT Pub. Co.)

THE GIANT FOOD.

Have you heard of the wondrous effects of Oxien, Most marvelous food that a mortal has seen? It is life to the dying, 'tis strength to the weak, And its equal in vain you would anywhere seek. In effect it is magical, you may observe, In toning the body and calming the nerve, For feeding the brain it is wonderful quite—Be you ever so dull it will make you feel bright! It gives you an appetite healthy and keen, The marvelous, magical, wondrous Oxien!

The marvelous, magical, wondrous Oxien!
The merchant, the minister, lawyer or clerk
Whose brains always suffer from extra hard work,
And all those who over their business cares brood
Find instant relief in this rest: giving food.
Dyspeptics and those who are given to faint
And people who're troubled with kidney complaint,
The drunkard whose good constitution has failed,
Who wrecked all his nerves and existence assailed,
Have found what a wonderful virtue there's been
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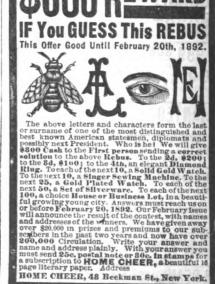
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Genius Versus Hardwork.

We this month present this short sketch on "Genfus Versus Hard work," as it makes a good preface to some very interesting illustrated articles on the rolllionaires of N. Y. and other cities that we are now having written up to appear exclusively in COMPORT. Sketches in the career of Russell Sage, Jay Gould, the Vanderblits, Astors, Rockfellers, Morgans, and other prominent wealthy men are always interesting and our articles will be made especially attractive and helpful as guides to the young who have their mark to make in the world.

always interesting and our articles will be minde especially attractive and helpful as guides to the young who have their mark to make in the world.

Let no young man be cast down because in the fulness of his own observation he has reached the conclusion that he is an ordinary man, and that he is without genius. Though "The Century's" admirable dictionary defines genius as the possession of phenomenal intellectual capacity, we have the authority of Sydney Smith, W. D. Howells, Chas. Dickens, and Abraham Lincoln that genius is but another name for the results of patient and incessant labor. That there are instances to the contrary is not to be doubted, but generally speaking, the life of all truly great men has been the life of intense and incessant labor. Edmund Burke was mearly life a struggling lawyer, and his first work of any importance "On the Sublime and Beautful" is a treatise of but little importance, and was characterized by Macaulay as being as dry as a parliamentary report. Yet Mr. Burke was the most laborious and indefatigable of human beings, and the time came when the resources of his immense intellectual powers were to be displayed. The great hall of William Rufus, the hall which had echoed to the inaugurations of thirty kings; the hall which had seen the just sentence of Bacon, and where Charles had controlled the High Court of Justice with that placid courage which has half redeemed his fame, became the scene of his greatest triumph, when he was intrusted with the impeachment of Warren Hastings. "Therefore," said he, "hath it with all confidence been ordered by the Commons of Great Britain, that I impeach Warren Hastings of high crimes and misdemeanors. I impeach him in the name of the English nation whose ancient honor he has sullied, and I impeach when he mee of the people of India, whose rights he has trodden underfoot, and whose country he has turned into a desert, and in the name of the English nation whose ancient honor he has sullied, and I impeach the in the name of overy rank, I impea



LINCOLN'S EARLY HOME

Abraham Lincoln studied while he split rails. Grant learned the hard work necessary to success in a country tanner. Daniel Webster knew the heights possible to the young man of application. Godfrey William Liebritz, the great German mathematician and philosopher, was never out of his study, and Blaise Pascal, the eminent French writer on geometry, killed himself by overwork. John Milton was at his "Paradise Lost" with the same regularity that a business man pursues his vocation, and Raphael fell a victim to his incessant toil at the early age of thirty-seven.

Thus it is that when the fruit of labor suddenly bursts forth in all its dazzling splendor, that the unthinking cry out, "Another phenomen on," "A wonderful genius!" Born to make his mark, etc. The long weary years of patient toil are lost sight of—the man has sprung into being without the formality of babyhood. He has entered the arena an acknowledged champion!

has spring into being without an acknowledged champion!

No one talks in that way except the unthinking. Position is not easily won, nor is it more easily held. There is more room at the top, but the merry war is there just the same. The successful competitor instead of trusting to his own single mind has ransacked the accumulated treasures of the ages, and every intellectual gift of nature however insignificant is capable of the same developement as a reward of the same effort.

It might be a comfort to many a young man to know that there is no height to which he may not occupy, and the bigger the prize the bigger the price. And to quote a homely but terse epigram from Mr. George Eastman, inventor of Kodak cameras, who is himself an illustration of what hard work can do, we remark in closing, "More men die from bumming than from hard work."

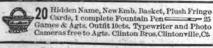
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OLIVE'S LOVERS.

Marry him? Well, I suppose I shall have to, or else lose all the money; and what is love without money, Jack? How I wish something would happen, but I have very little hope left." She stops short, as if she has said all there is be said, and pours herself another cup of

"You speak as if it were a pleasure—the having to marry him I mean." says the young man on the opposite side the small table.
"Why deal so mysteriously in pronouns, which are tall Mr. Carroll by

"Why deal so mysteriously in pronouns, Jack, dear? And why not call Mr. Carroll by his name?"

his name?"
"Simply because I detest his name, himself, and everything belonging to him," Jack Dering

"Then you hate me, too, for I in a measure belong to him."
"That you do not, and never shall, if I can prevent it. Olive, is there no way out of it?"
"I'm afraid not, Jack, and after all, money is

a power."

"Quite true, but what is money, what is any-

thing, without love!

"Aunt Janet says that when poverty comes in at the door, love flies out at the window," Olive says pensively.
"But, Olive, child, I am not the pauper you

"But, Olive, child, I am not the pauper you think me. I have three hundred a year."
"And I, if I marry Duke Carroll, will have an income of thirty thousand a year."
"I wish you were not so mercenary, Olive," he says, reproachfully. "A true, loving heart is worth more to a woman than all the wealth of the world, and so you will find when it is too late."

of the world, and so you will find when it is too late."

"Oh, Jack, how can you think so badly of me? You know that I love you better than any one in the wide world; but I fear that Aunt Janet will never give her consent to our marriage. Are you going already, Jack?"

"It is good-bye for a little time, my dear Olive. I am off to town by the 4.30 express."

Another ten minutes is consumed in good-byes, and then Jack is gone. When his footsteps die away the love light fades quickly from the girl's eyes.

"It is a most cruel will," she says aloud. "Why should Uncle Timothy condemn me to marry a man whom I have never seen, in order to inherit his wretched money? As for Duke Carroll, I am fully prepared to hate him."

"A most unwise conclusion," says a quiet voice from the doorway, where Miss Merton stands.

veice from the doorway, where Miss Merton stands.

"Oh, Auntie, did you hear me? Well, it's the troth at any rate."

"Where is your schoolboy lover?" Miss Janet inquires. "I see you have been feeding him on bread and butter and tea, a most proper diet for boys of his age."

"Peor Jack, "Olive says mournfully."

"Peor Jack, "Olive says mournfully."

"Peor Jack, indeed!" cries Miss Janet. "He looked anything but deserving of pity when I saw him just now, with his hat perched on one side his head, and whistling some absurd tune."

"You are hard upon Jack, Auntie; he looks upon the bright side of things."

"There is no bright side in his case. He has no right to drag you down into a life of potenty; you who have been reared so tenderly."

"But, Auntie, love is more than everything

But, Auntie, love is more than everything

"Silly child! ease and comfort are more to be "Silly child! ease and comfort are more to be sought after—so you will think when it is too fate. Years of toil and privation are not calculated to heighten any woman's charms, and so your husband would tell you, after you had sperified the best years of your life for his confort."
"That is so unlike look be made."

so your husband would tell you, after you had secrificed the best years of your life for his comfort."

"That is so unlike Jack, he would never speak so to any woman, least of all to the woman he loved."

"Your faith is beautiful, my dear. May you keep it, is all I have to say," and with a snort like a war-horse Miss Janet leaves the room, with her colors flying in triumph.

During the sad days that follow, Jack's strange silence puzzles the girl sorely. He had promised so faithfully to write, yet a month goes by, and she receives no tidings of her absent lover.

Ah, if she only knew the fate of those tender, to ving letters that Jack Dering pens daily for a time, and that somehow find their way unopened into Miss Merton's kitchen fire when Olive happens to be out sketching in the pretty wood, or away with Prince on her morning ramble.

"It is only what I expected, child," she says day after day. "There is nothing in the world so unstable as a young man's fancy. No doubt Jack Dering has forgotten your very existence by this time."

Olive will not trust herself to reply, but runs from the house out into the garden, her golden curls all dishevelled, and straight into the arms of a remarkably handsome young man who is coming ieisurely up the garden path.

"I beg your pardon." Olive cries, flushing hotly.

"It is yours,' he returns graciously. "You

"I beg your permits that the returns graciously. "You are Miss Merton's niece?" he goes on. "I am Olive Trenwith and Miss Merton is my

aunt."
"Allow me to introduce myself. I am Marma-

"Allow me to introduce myself. I am Marmaduke Carroll."
In an instant Olive's smile freezes.
"Will you walk in, sir?" she asks coldly.
"No doubt Auntie will be delighted to see you," and with a curt bow of dismissal, she leaves him standing hat in hand in the middle of the garden path, her usually charming manners forgotten.

gotten.
With a low whistle of surprise Duke Carroll watches the slender figure out of sight, and then pursues his way indoors, where he meets with a most delightful welcome from Miss Merton. She is eloquent in her praise of the stranger that evening when she and Olive are alone.

alone.

Each day brings Mr. Carroll to the cottage, and each day the girl looks in vain for a letter. No letter! the words fall like the voice of doom on her throbbing heart. No letter! she hears it

and each day the gril looks in vain for a letter. No letter! the words fall like the voice of doom on her throbbing heart. No letter! she hears it in feverish dreams and flies continually from its hissing.

Only those who have known what it is to stake their hopes on a sheet of letter paper, who have wakened at dawn counting the hours that must go by till the mail is due, working diligently to murder time till that hour rolls round to send a messenger in hot haste, to listen for the sound of returning footsteps, to meet him at the door with outstretched hands, and receive—no letter! only those who have writhed on this rack know the misery of such days. These are the trials that plough wrinkles in smooth girlish brows, that harden the outline of soft rosy lips, that sicken the weary soul and teach women deception.

Olive knew that both her aunt and Duke Carroll watched her closely, and behind the mask of gay, rapid words and ringing, mirthless langhter, she tried to hide her suffering. One day she obtaine a late copy of the "Times," which Duke brings to them occasionally. Instinctively she glances at the list headed "Marriages," and then, oh! heaven help her, her very heart seems to cease its pulsation. She stands motionless a moment, but the walls of the room spin around like maple leaves in an autunn gale.

"Can it be true? Was Aunt Janet right after all, and is there no truth, no love in the world?"

an autumn gale.
"Can it be true? Was Aunt Janet right after all, and is there no truth, no love in the world?"
Coming into the room sometime later Miss Merton finds her niece prone upon the floor, the paper grasped tightly in her death-cold hand. When she has restored the girl to con-

sciousness she grasps the "Times" and reads eagerly, almost joyfully, Olive thinks, the following paragraph:

MARRIED.
On Nov. 19th at St. John's Episcopal Church.
John M. Dering and Irene Clifton, all of Boston. The happy couple will leave the city immediately on an extended tour of Europe.

That same evening Duke Carroll strolls into the small drawing-room, unannounced, where Olive is sitting all alone in the firelight, playing softly on the old worn-out piano that sounds an unpleasant jingle in the treble.

"Will you sing me time."

"Will you sing me just one song, Olive?" he says pleadingly

"Will you sing me just one song, Olive?" he says pleadingly.

One by one she turns over her songs, then selects one, and begins to sing in her rich, tender contralto, "Tears, idle tears." As she rises from the piano Duke clasps her hands in his, and says eagerly:
"Olive, shall I tell you what lies next my heart? I came here to-night to ask you to be my wife, have you no word for me, Olive?"

She turns from him and says calmly:
"I do not love you, Duke, and if I marry you, it will be for wealth and position."
"So be it," he says, almost solemnly. "Such love as mine must create a return some time. I will leave you now, Olive, and come again in the morning to talk the matter over with Miss Merton. Good-night, my darling."

Olive gives him an unwilling hand, and in another moment he is gone.
Miss Merton looses no time in having the approaching marriage duly chronicled in the city papers and it is here that Jack Dering first sees it, as he sits alone in his bachelor apartments in town, nondering for the hundredth time

papers and it is here that Jack Dering first sees it, as he sits alone in his bachelor apartments in town, pondering for the hundredth time over Olive's strange conduct, in not replying to his letters.

eletters. Women are all alike the world over," he says scornfully, flinging the paper to one side. "Well, about the best thing I can do, will be to accept Uncle John's offer, and the position he offers me, as private secretary. I will go abroad with a bridal party after all, and try to forget there is such a thing as love in the world!"

World!"

Time rolls on, summer is casting down her crown of flowers, the reapers are busy in the fields, and to-morrow is Olive's wedding day. Above stairs the snowy silk, the lace veil, the fragrant orange blossoms, are all in readiness. Duke, who has gone to the city, is expected home by the evening train, but as the hours go by and he comes not, Miss Janet frets and fumes herself almost into a fever of impatience. "Something awful must have happened, Olive." she says for the twentieth time.

Something awful has happened. Dake Carroll, lost in blisshal dreams of the future, that fancy paints in such glowing colors, seated in a luxuriously furnished compartment of the home bound train, is rudely awakened by a succession of shrill sounds, which indicate that the engineer is either frightened or frantic. The conductor rushes bareheaded through the car; people spring to their feet, then a shock, as if the day of doom has dawned, a crash, and all is chaos!

Viewed by the aid of lanterns and the lurid, flickering light of torches, the scene of disaster russents a rehastly debris of dead and dying, of

Viewer of the arms of the state of disaster presents a ghastly debris of dead and dying, of crushed cars and wounded men and women, who writhe and groan among the shattered

crushed cars and wounded men and women, who writhe and groan among the shattered timbers from which they find it impossible to extricate themselves. The cries of those who recognize relatives in the mutilated corpses who are dragged out from the wreck, increase the horrors of the occasion.

Duke Carroll lies between two timbers, one of which has fallen across his feet and crushed them. Another has fallen on his head, while one arm is pinioned to his side. His lips are pinched and purple, the white lids lie rigid over the laughing blue eyes, his hands are stift and icy. He is quite dead when they find him, some hours later, when a group of men with axes in their hands bend down and look into his face. Dead—and to-morrow his wedding day!

ay! They bring him home and lay him to rest in he old family vault, the burial place of the the

the old family vault, the ourial place of the Carrolls.

Olive wears mourning for the man who so nearly became her lushand, though in her heart she is not sorry to be free and mistress of thirty thousand a year.

A year passes quietly away, with its summer flowers, autumn beauty, and winter snow.

flowers, autumn beauty, and winter snow. Olive is a great heiress now, and accompanied by Aunt Janet, has improved the time in

Onve is a great heress how, and a scompanied by Aunt Janet, has improved the time in travel.

Just now they are stopping at a well known hotel near Chicago, for Miss Merton has declared it absolutely necessary to her niece's health to obtain at least a few weeks' rest after the round of summer gayeties.

"Remember, Olive," she says, raising a warning finger, "it is to be rest, absolutely."

"I do hope it will not be too dull," sighs Olive. "If only a few nice people whom we know could be with us, Auntie."

Things were dull enough in truth at the country hotel, until Saturday came, bringing with it a crowd of men from the city.

Miss Merton and Olive go down to dinner together that night, and are both considerably shocked to find Jack Dering standing in the hall giving directions concerning his luggage.

It is too late to retreat, and there is nothing for it but a mutual recognition, a light hand clasp, a smile, a bow, and it is all over. All over, while Olive tells herself that in spite of everything, she loves this handsome Jack as she never loved him in the past.

"We must leave this place to-morrow, Auntie," she whispers pleadingly. "You will not mind?"

"Certainly, my dearest." Aunt Janet says

mind?" Certainly, my dearest," Aunt Janet says

not mind?"
"Certainly, my dearest." Aunt Janet says kindly.
Perhaps she feels at times some slight remorse at her share in the girl's unhappy past, for she has been doubly kind and thoughtful since Marmaduke Carroll's tragic death and collapse of her long cherished scheme of seeing Olive his wife.

It is the 27th of October, dinner is at an end, and tired of strolling in the grounds and gardens so softly perfumed by the night flowers, most of the party pass into the lighted parlors, while Jack Dering and several other gentlemen linger outside on the balcony to finish their cigars.

"Miss Trenwith sing something for us tonight," Mrs. Beauchamp says coaxingly. "Anything you like, only sing."
"Do not ask me," Olive objects languidly. "It is so long since I have sung that I scarcely know any song correctly."

"Break down if you will, only sing for us," says someone else
"Do. Miss Trenwith," says Jack.

says someone else "Do, Miss Trenwith," says Jack.
He has come in through the open window, and something in his tone strikes Miss Janet as being odd. He is looking eagerly, fixedly at Olive. Will she refuse this unexpected request of his? Olive raises to his a face smiling, but hale.

pale. "Well, yes, I will sing you something." she says, and strikes a few lingering chords. Then she begins.

"I linger round the very spot Where years ago we met, And wonder when you quite forgot, Or if you quite forget, And tender yearnings rise anew For love that used to be.

If you could know that I was true, And I that you were free.

And I that you were free.
Love once again, meet me once again.
Old love is waking, shall it wake in vain?"
As she come to the last line a wild sadness mingles with her tone. When she has finished they are all silent. The moonlight, streaming across the carpet, rebukes the soft radiance of the lamps. Pushing aside the ourtains with one hand, Jack says in a low, determined tone:
"Miss Trenwith, will you come and see how the gardens look by moonlight?"
"Yes, if you wish it," she says, letting the

"Yes, if you wish it," she says, letting the words fall from her lips with singular sweet-

"I am so glad," exclaims Miss Janet plaint-

ness.

"I am so glad," exclaims Miss Janet plaintively, when they are out of hearing. "Now I hope they will marry each other, and bring their little comedy to a close."

For long since, without Miss Janet's aid, had the girl discovered her terrible mistake in supposing that it was her Jack who had married. But still there were many things to be explained away during that long happy hour in the chill October moonshine. Among others, the missing letters. At last, Jack manages to hint his suspicions to Olive, and though it causes her gentle heart another pang to accept Aunt Janet's guilt as a hard fact, it is too plain to mistake. She yields to his opinion in everything, just as in the old day, for who could resist Jack's eyes, or Jack's outstretched arms? Olive never pretended to, so that is why her golden head found such a speedy resting place upon his broad shoulder.

"This past year has been a weary one to me, Jack," she whispers presently.

"But it is over now, Olive, darling. Let us look forward and not backward. Please God there are many years of happiness in store for us yet. Truly, there is no joy so complete as that which succeeds sorrow—no happiness so sweet as that which follows upon misery."

And what do you suppose Aunt Janet gave

And what do you suppose Aunt Janet gave her niece and nephew for a bridal present? quite out of keeping, you will say, with the grand display of diamonds, gold and silver and crystal that dazzled the eyes of those fortunate enough to be invited, a year's subscription to COMERT! COMFORT!

"For," as she remarked to her dear five hundred friends, "as I have always said, though Olive would never believe me, there is nothing so desirable as comfort in this world of ours. I trust the dear child may be happy after all." as she remarked to her dear five hun-

And so she was. "All was ended now, the hope, the fear, and the

sorrow.
All the aching of heart, the restless, unsatisfied longing,
All the dull deep pain—
And the constant anguish of patience!

GEORGIE LEE BRUCE.

Wild Rose; or, Teaching a Backswood's School.

Wood's School.

A good many years ago when I was a much younger man than I am now and beginning to struggle with the world, I found myself stranded in the city of Detroit, out of work and money. Although possessing a good education and various accomplishments, I, like many another such, could obtain employ ment no better than the veriest hod-carrier, and found my education of little use to me. Everywhere I applied for work the answer was the same: no opening, apply again, until I was so tired and dispirited I did not know where to go or what to do. Things were in this discouraging condition when one day I read in a new-paper the following advertisement:

"Wanted—The trustees of the Scraggleville Public School would like a teacher for the school. Must be well educated and able to manage scholars. Apply to trustees, Schoolhouse, Scraggleville."

I learned from the landlord of the house where I was stopping that Scraggleville was about twenty miles from Detroit, and further than this my informant did not know, his knowledge of the place being limited.

I determined to apply for the position, although I had no knowledge of its worth, or the salary was not stated in the advertisement. However, wages were not of much consequence with me as I would be satisfied with almost nothing, so cager was I to get work.

So next morning I settled up a small score I owed the landlord and set out on my journey to Scraggleville. I did not like teaching school had I any choice in the matter, but one is compelled to do a great many disagreeable things when necessity compels, and so I was willing to try it, provided I was lucky enough to secure the job.

It was a good journey to Scraggleville and I was footsore enough before I had traversed

the job.

It was a good journey to Scraggleville and I was footsore enough before I had traversed half the distance. Fortunately I got a lift on the cart of a friendly rustic who was also bound for the place, and rode the remainder of the way.

the cart of a friendly rustic who was also bound for the place, and rode the remainder of the way.

I stated my errand to the friendly rustic and secured board at his house. He told me that there were several other applicants, and that there were several other applicants, and worked hard during the day, would hold a meeting that night in the school-house for the purpose of examining the applicants.

Scraggleville, as I saw before I was in it many hours, was a typical backwoods town, built of log huts and cabins, the population of which seemed rude and ignorant to a degree. But though now in a most primitive state the place gave promise of a great future, and I may incidentally mention here that this promise was fulfilled and Scraggleville is to-day one of the liveliest towns in Michigan.

Well, when evening came the applicants were examined by the trustees—three hard-featured, illiterate old farmers, who themselves looked as if they could hardly read or write. There were two other candidates besides myself—a man and a woman—a sour-faced female, who looked a typical country "schoolma"am." To give them their due they were good scholars and well versed in the three R's, and the "trustees" were not unimpressed by their learning as I saw. But I possessed an accomplishment which they did not—that of drawing. I was a fairly good artist and when I drew some pictures for the committee on the blackboard that settled the matter—and in my favor. I began my duties at once and when I got accustomed to it rather liked the work. It amused me and the pay was satisfactory—twenty-five dollars a month and board, which I got by staying in turns at the different farm-houses in the village.

The Scraggleville school-house was not the imposing structure we see nowadays; it was a flighted the matter was seen of the more applicants.

The Scraggleville school-house was not the will age.

The Scraggleville school-house was not the will age.

ring in turns at the dimerent faint-house was not the village.

The Scraggleville school-house was not the imposing structure we see nowadays; it was built of logs, rudely put together, but strong and serviceable. The interior was rudely furnished and contained a battered desk and highished and contained a battered desk and high-stool situated on a platform for the teacher, and a triple row of hardwood benches and desks for the pupils. A few cheap prints cov-ered the walls and a water-pail, stool and set of timeworn text-books completed the furni-ture of the school.

The schoolars were a rough set like their elders, boys and girls, and as hard to govern as a lot of donkeys. Some of them were very mis-chiven, and one semeially who seemed a ring-

a fot of donkeys. Some of term was a symplectic chievous and one especially who seemed a ring-leader. This was a girl of lifteen, a very handsome rosy checked lass named Rose Maybell, the daughter of one of Scraggieville's leading

She was a veritable madcap-a hoyden She was a veritable madcap—a hoyden—and gave me more trouble than any two boys in the school. Yet she was a bright pupil when she would learn. There were a good many rough and turbulent lads among the pupils of the Scraggleville public school, but I soon reduced these to obedience. The summary measures I took with these, however, I could not take with my hoydenish pupil, Wild Rose Maybell, as she was called on account of her madcap disposition. One cannot thrash a girl very well, and so Wild Rose rather had the advantage of meantages of the summary measures. took with these however. I could not take with my hoydenish pupil, Wild Rose Maybell, as she was called on account of her madeap disposition. One cannot thrash a girl very well, and so Wild Rose rather had the advantage of me. But matters soon reached a point where I was compelled to take the girl in hand and talk to her like a "Dutch Uncle." Her conduct became outrageous, and indeed encouraged by her companions and my hitherto lenient treatment of her, she set my authority at defance. I called her up to the desk one morning and stated matters to her plainly. I showed her how she was wasting the golden hours of youth in senseless idling and mischief and that she ought to be more industrious. But, of course, my fatherly advice fell on deaf ears, and when I threatened her with corporal publishment she laughed deliantly.

"You wouldn't dare liek me," she said, her eyes sparkling with anger. "My pa 'ud liek you to death if you teched me. So there."

And the little spitifie looked so handsome as she faced me in defiance that I felt more like throwing my arms around her and kissing her than beating her.

But I restrained myself and told her to bear what I had said in mind. Although Wild Rose was a favorite of mine I meant what I had said and was determined to punish her if she did not mend her ways. But she did not do so, and, after she had been unusually mischievous I called her up one day and administered to her a good rattanning.

She was very much chagrined and vowed that she would tell her "pa," and she must have done so, for next morning before school opened I was waited upon by a strapping backwoodsman—a rough, grizzled pioneer in hickory shirt and cowhide boots, who without further ceremony introduced himself as Sam Maybell.

She was a fairly good and that I had done had been only done in my position as school master, and for the girl's good, and that I had a perfect right to do it. But the bull-headed fellow would listen to no explanation as all, and anonce went in "to glean me out" as he expressed none of t

CONTEMPT OF COURT.

Mr. Rawley walked in, and close at his heels stalked Bitters. Both seated themselves: the one on a chair, the other on end directly in front of the surrogate, Mr. Jagger looked at the dog with the solemn eye of a surrogate, and shook his head as only a surrogate can shake it. "Are you the witness?" inquired he of the dog's master.

"I am, sir," replied Mr. Rawiey. " I was subpoenaed to testify."

"What's that animal doing here?" demanded

saw that he had not.

"No.sir: he resists the court" replied Mr. Slagg.

"Call Walker to assist you," said Mr. Jagger. Walker, a thin man in drabs, had anticipated something of the kind, and accidentally withdrawn as soon as he saw that there was a prospect of difficulty; so the whole court was set at defiance by the dog.

"Witness!"said Mr. Jagger.

Mr. Rawley looked the court full in the face "Will you oblige the court by removing that animal?"said Mr. Jagger mildly.

"Certainly, sir," said Mr. Rawley. "Bitters, go home."Bitters rose stiffly and went out, first casting a glance at the man with the wig, for the purpose of being able to identify him on some future occasion, and was soon after seen from the window walking up the street with the most profound gravity.—From the "Attorney," by John T. Irving.



My Dear Mystic Friends:

Again the cycle has been completed, and again we are seated at the "Realm of Comfort," in this, the most joyous month of the whole year, to have our usual good time, chatting over the "Mystic Affairs," and tangling and untangling the "Intricate Knots from Puzzledom."

Oldcastle has brought with him this time, some fine original puzzles, the contributions of his Mystic Friends, which he is going to give you to solve; some refer to the yule-time season, and will be all the more interesting, others are founded on varioussentertaining subjects, while deep down in his "grip" he finds the diamonds sent in competition, having Oldcastle as a central word. Many good ones were received and a difficult task it was, to tell which was size better than the one sent by Doc of Worcester, Masss., contained some points of excellency that ranked it above the others, so, to him, is awarded the prize offered by Remardo.

To those who may see the lights of "The Mystic Castle" this month for the first time. Would you not like to join "Our Mystic Band," and meet Oldcastle and his Mystic Friends at the "Realm of Comfort" every month? Would you not like to opin "Our Mystic Band," and meet Oldcastle and his Mystic Friends at the "Realm of Comfort" every month? Would you not like to enjoy the many chats we have, the pleasures of tangling and untangling these "Mysteries" and win some of the nice prizes offered? A cordial invitation to join us is extended to you all, the doors of "The Mystic Castle" you will be enrolled as a member of "Our Mystic Band" and will enjoy all the comfort, Utica, N. Y., and you will be enrolled as a member of "Our Mystic Band" and will enjoy all the comfort, Utica, N. Y., and you will be enrolled as a member of "Our Mystic Band" and will enjoy all the comfort, Utica, N. Y., and you will be enrolled as a member of "Our Mystic Band" and will enjoy all the comfort, Utica, N. Y., and you will be enrolled as a member of "Our Mystic Band" and will enjoy all the comfort, Utica, N. Y., and you wi

to "Our Mystic Band." Long may they remain with the Have you sent in your list of words contained in Oldcastle. In competition for the excellent prizes offered in November Mystic Castle? If not, you had better, dear mystic friend, as we want to have every comform reader enter this contest and try to win one of the prizes. For conditions relating to this contest, see November Mystic Castle.

Solvers to Sept. "Mysteries" are as follows:—Line, 15; Arty Fishel, Frank, Doe, 14; Frant, Miss Blanche Bancroft, Ophir, Eglantine and Gwendoline, 13; Ray, Mrs. G. P. C, and W. E. Wiatt, 12; Ypsie, Delian, 11; Sunshine, 10; Aspiro, Castranova, 9; Thinker, 8; Alda, Fermin, Southern Girl, (New Orleans, La.,) 7; Mrs. C. C. Haskell, Novice, Lalla Rookh, R. E. Fleet, Danville Solver, Columbia, 6; Mater, Remardo, 5; Arthur, Cowboy, Hi A. Watha, 4; Olive R. Sudden, Will, 3; Old Woman, 2; O. F. Baughman, h. Prize-winners:—I. Line. 2. Arty Fishel. 3. Frank. Specials:—I. Danville Solver, 2. Ray.

Now, dear friends, I must bring this visit to a close and wend my way homeward, hoping to meet you all again next month.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I am

Your dear old Mystic Friend, OldCastle.

SOLUTIONS TO SEPTEMBER'S MYSTERIES. No. 211. Comfortable. No. 212. Rudyard Kipling. No. 213. Justice. No. 214. War-raw. No. 215. Puns, spun

Pons, spun.
No. 216. P
S A C
C A R O B
S A M A R E S
P A R A G O G I C
C O R O C O R E
B E G O R E D
S I R E N E
C E D E S

No. 217.

JACOBSLADDERS
CAPITATIONS
BALUSTERS
LECTURN
SKINS
SNE
GO
No. 218. Moss—rose. No. 220. Arty Fishel. No. 221.

FID BEDEW FEDERAL I DERIVED WATER LID S No. 219.

No. 222.

E S T A T E

S L A V E S

T A L E N T

A V E N U E

T E N U R E

E S T E E M

No. 223. Comfort. No. 225. Margarita, Mag-dalena, Ben Nevis, Tom Bigby, Grand, Marga-rita, Magdalena, Po, Ben, Nevis Tom Bigby, Wheel. TENURE
ROCK, Orange, Milk, Dog, Bear, Fear, Farewell,

A B A N E T
B E L O N E
A L M U C E
N O U G A T
E N C A V E
T E E T E R

Magdai
Levis, Tomb.
ing, Chili, N
M, Dog, Bear, Fea

M, A C A C U S
T O M E L E T
P O L E N T A
P A T E N T S
P O D E S T A

Mystr
No. 249.

40. 5. "itb" No. 226.

I have heard of "an edible scaweed," Its name 5, 9, 3, 1, 7, 4; Leather-colored, grows under the water; Of that, I will tell you no more. The "back-bone of an animal," look for

The letters—10, 6, 8, 3, 2; When you conquer the TOTAL, recite it, "Its "a birthday poem," for you. Etna, Ohio,

No. 251. Numerical.

"Hello! my friend," 2, 8, 5 said,
As they met in the village store;
"Remember the bet with me you made,
That you would chew no more."

"What makes you spit and spit away? Have you to chew begun? You 3, 11, 4 must say— Ha! Ha! the bet I've won."

He replied, with a 7, 6, 9 and a grin, "Oh no, 10, 1 on my soul,
For a cold I took some medicine,
In mistake, I took a whole.
Gouldsboro Sta., Pa.,

ARTHUR. No. 252. Double Letter Enigma.

No. 252. Double Letter Enigma.
In "lofty cone,"
In "purer tone,"
In "warmer zone."
The Pinst is one of worthless chaps;
The whole, an evening bell.
The LAST, "not many;" and, perhaps—
But this is all I'll tell.
Wataga, Ills.,
OLI

OLD PETE.

No. 253. Doubl
"In "ocean so blue;"
In "jacket so new;"
In "battery's guns;"
In "jokers' puns,"
Perhaps you'll guess it,
When you are told,
My whole is worth
Its weight in gold.
Montpelier, Ohio,

JEW V. NILE. No. 254. Crossword.

No. 254. Cro
In porter not in beer,
In mind not in hear;
In table not in chair,
In cat not in bear;
In safety not in danger,
In barn not in manger;
In yours not in mine,
In theirs not in thine;
In thoughtful not in witty,
Whole is an Eastern city.
Washington, Pa.,
No. 255. Guill

No. 255. Guillotination. No. 255. Guillotination.

1. Guillotine sentiment, and have a wing; 2. A frame of wood, and have certain serpents; 3. Directed, and leave puffed up; 4. To correct, and leave to hurry; 5. To contract, and have exact; 6. Limited, and have tinged; 7. Contract, and have a deed; 8. Educated, and have deserved; 9. A large stable, and have a groom.

Guillotined letters form a friend of the "Mystic Krewe."

Belton, Tex.. BLACK EYED CHARLEY. No. 256. Christmas Anagram.

They SAY I HOLD ONE OF THE—what? Yes, what do they say that I hold? It may be of greenbacks, a lot, Or a purse of pure nickels or gold. My uncles and cousins, all gay And wealthy, are coming to see Our folks on next Christmas day, And jolly as larks will we be.

Christmas is TOTAL, no doubt, And we'll dress in our best, every one. And with laughter, and romping and shout, We'll have our full quantum of fun.

The presents all costly and rare, We'll enjoy, and as treasures lay in; But we'll give to the needy a share, And thus their good will, will we win.

They say I HOLD ONE OF THE charms, And truly, when kindness we show, Joy follows and blesses our alms, And dispels every shadow of woe. Dubois, Ills.,

No. 257. Square.

1. System of government. 2. A certain instrument. Show. 4. A titanic iron ore. 5. Measuring. 6. A enus of plants. Bangor, Pa., T. HINKER.

No. 258. Pentagon.

1. A letter. 2. One who deserts his party. 3. Spoke with hesitation. 4. Games of chance. 5. Depressed in spirits. 6. Babbling. 7. Discourses at great length 8. More valuable. 9. Receptacles of numbers. Philadelphia, Pa.,

No. 259. Hexagon.

No. 209. Hexagon.

1. To range or wander over: 2. An ancient Italian language. 3. A genus of leguminous trees and shrubs.

4. A character in Shakespeare. 5. A method of ornamenting metal plates. 6. A volume of plates. 7. An army.

Oswego, N. Y... VENUS.

No. 260. Half Square.

No. 260. Half Square.

1. A letter. 2. A prefix denoting with. 3. To put on. 4. Bark. 5. A carnivorous animal. 8. Disgusting. 7. Stems of the calamus. 8. To loathe. 9. One who complies. 10. Certain vessels.

San Francisco, Cal., J. C. M. No. 261. Charade. (By sound.)

'Twas a "Mystic Castle," in mystic lands, And a mystic spell was round it;
There were mystic bundles and a mystic roll, And a mystic string that bound it;
And an old man sat in a high back chair, Whose locks were grizzly and gray.

He'd wandered away across the LAST, And he'd searched for many a day, To gather thus, fully, his mystic store, For the TOTAL time drew near, When many are glad and FIRST delight.

To receive his welcome cheer.
For the mystic spell brings a mystic joy, And a mystic word for all, From "The Mystic Castle" of mystic lands; Long live its mystic thrail.
Binghampton, N. Y., FRANTZ.

No. 262. Charade. One day a rare old gentleman Called at my father's house, And I, as erst I had been taught, Kept still as any mouse.

At last my father introduced The gentleman to me; He asked a question, "Can you flest?" I answered, I tico three,

The whole's a name in an old play, Writ years and years ago; "The rehearsal" and a braggart he Spares neither friend nor foe. Providence, R. I.,

No. 263. Prize Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. Old times, (poetic.) 3. A country in Asia. 4. To form with scales. 5. A noted puzzler's nom de plume. 6. Interval. 7. To vary. 8. A shade om de plume. ee. 9. A letter.

No. 264. Diamond.

No. 264. Diamond.

I. A letter. 2. Sorrowful. 3. One who hates. 4. An inclosure, on or near which the mansion house stands. 5. A native of Samaria. 6. Water-ousels. 7. Raved as a mad-man. 8. Revolves. 9. Receives. 10. A male nickname. 11. A letter.

Poultney, Vt.,

No. 265. Pentagon.

An electrical unit. 3. Went

1. A consonant, 2. An electrical unit, 3. Went astray, 4. Low-growing plants, with purple flowers, 5. A church festival. 6. A colorless liquid resembling turpentine, 7. A lord's manor place. 8. An Indian brave, 9. Oozy, Worcester, Mass., Doc. PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

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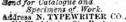
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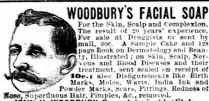




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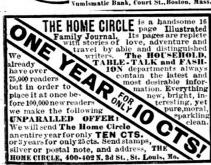








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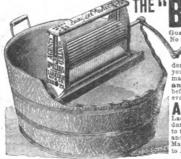


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THE LYNDON HOUSE.

BY THE AUTHOR OF-

THROUGH DEEP WATERS.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

Olive Tremont's mother is very ill. Clarissa Lyndon her grandmother arrives. Mrs. Tremont begs her mother to accept the care of Olive, who is a young girl of 17. She disowned her daughter nineteen years before. At the end of three days, Mrs. Tremont dies and Olive goes to Lyndon House the home of her grandmother, and is there introduced to her Aunt, Ernestine Lyndon, and Mrs. Lyndon's ward, Isabel Nelson. One day while walking with Isabel they meet Haroid Leighton who is a frequent guest at Lyndon House and Ernestine's supposed lover. He falls deeply in love with Olive, and in order to put her out of the way, Ernestine sends her on an errand to cross a dangerous bridge which gives away while she is crossing. She is saved by Haroid and conveyed home. After her recovery, there is seen a beautiful engagement ring on her finger. One day she seemed depressed and had forebodings of evil and went down to tea unable to shake off the gloom of her heart. SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

can trust you."
"Thank ye, miss. You can trust me," said the man, as he took the well-filled purse extended to him.
"Remember that caution is still required," said Ernestine coldly.
They went back down stairs, and Ernestine entered the library, where her mother was seated.
"Is she in the dark chamber?" inquired Mrs. Lynder.

"is she in the dark chamber?" inquired Mrs. Lyndon.

Ernestine bowed an affirmative.
Five minutes later the sound of wheels broke the stillness which prevailed. The next moment the door bell rang, and presently a man was shown into the library by the servant who answered it. When the latter had left the room, Ernestine said:
"All is well, Mr. Ladner. Of course, you did not forget to mention to the servant that you had been sent from Bangor to fetch Miss Tremont to visit a relative who was very ill?"
"Of course, I didn't. I said the woman was very bad, and the young lady must come at once."
"Very well. You have to wait here only a short time—just long enough, in fact, to allow time for the imaginary lady to get away. But the servants must not see that you go out from here alone."

"I'll be very careful."
After the lapse of a quarter of an hour, during which time Ernestine took pains to be seen going to Olive's room and returning with a small traveling bag which, however, did not find its way to the carriage, the man departed.

CHAPTER V.

The next morning Isabel's headache was better, and she went down to breakfast. "Where is Olive?" she asked, addressing Mrs. Lyn-

don.
"She went away last night," said the old lady, care-

"She went away last night, "said the lessly.
"You must have heard the carriage, I think," interposed Ernestine. "Her aunt, her father's sister, is very ill, and she was sent for to go and see her."
Isabel expressed considerable surprise.
"It is strange," she said. "Olive informed me that she had never seen her aunt. Why did she send for her now?"

her now?"
"I cannot account for the lady's whim," said Ernestine. "Olive was anxious to go. She did not like to
disturb you, so she requested me to make her adieus
to you."

"How long will she be absent?"
"I cannot tell until we hear from her. She promised to write to me."

can hardly control myself. I think I will go home."

"I am very sorry for you," she said again.

Olive lay for hours on the bed where she had been placed, in a state of complete unconsciousness. When at length the drug she had swallowed had spent its power, and her waxen eyelids on which a heavy weight seemed to rest were opened, she gazed around her in a state of bewildered astonishment which gradually gave place to dismay. Terror followed, and falling back upon the bed from which she had partially risen, she uttered a stifled scream.

Where was she? Was this a dream from which she would awaken presently to find herself in her own bed, with Isabel sleeping quietly in the next room? She lifted her face again. The lamp on the table burned in a very feeble, smoky way, and the room was full of lurking shadows.

Olive shivered with dread, as her eyes took in the appointments of that dismal chamber. She remembered taking tea with her grandmother and aunt, and that was the very last thing—try as she would—that she could remember. Her engagement ring was missing from her finger, and she shed bitter tears over the loss.

The moments passed. Olive sobbed until her strength was exhausted, and then became unconscious.

over the loss.

The moments passed. Olive sobbed until her strength was exhausted, and then became unconscious.

"Oh, aunt, for my dead mother's sake do not be se cruel."

"Oh, aunt, for my dead mother's sake do not be secruel."

"I cared nothing about your mother. And I do not think you will see the light of day again very soon. I have brought you some breakfast."

Fernestine turned and left the room, and Olive heard the key rattle ominously in the lock.

Hours passed. Olive had no means of noting the flight of time. After what seemed an age to the lonely, frightened girl, Ernestine came again, bearing a tea tray on which was spread a comfortable meal. Olive begged to know the time of day.

"It is seven o'clock in the evening," said her aunt, grimly. "I shall leave you now to solitude, and I hope you will sleep well to-night."

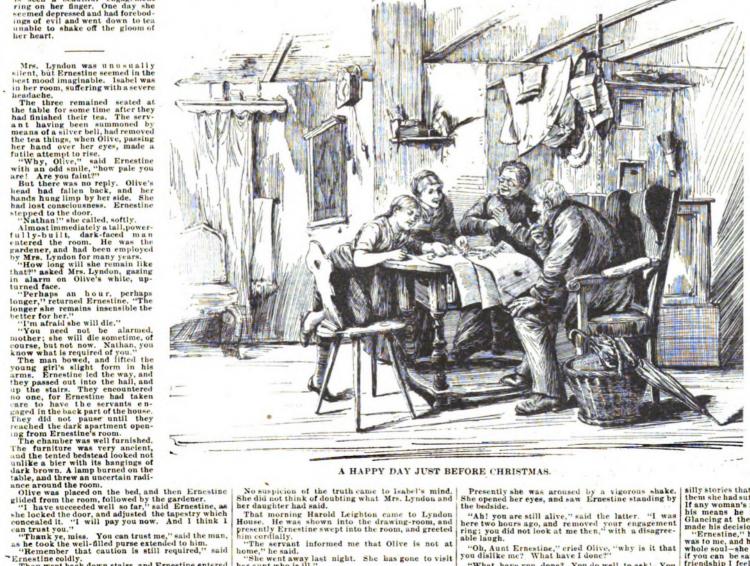
The day dragged slowly by, and Olive grew pale and weak. Twice each day her aunt came to the room.

One night Olive awoke suddenly from a troubled sleep, fully conscious that there was an unknown presence near her. The lamp burned dimly, and Olive raised herself on her elbow and gazed around. Leaning over her was a tall figure, clad in a flowing white robe, confined at the waist by a dark cord. The face of the figure was ghastly white, its dark eyes glittered unnaturally, and its long black hair feli over its shoulders. One hand was extended towards the terrified girl, and the other swept away the heavy fall of the bed curtains.

As Olive looked, fascinate³ by the awful sight, the figure waved its hand and uttered an unearthly ery. Olive could bear no more. She screamed and fainted.

When she recovered consciousness she was alone in the room, and all was quiet. Had she been dreaming? No, she was quite sure that she had been wide awake. Then what had she seen? Was Lyndon House haunted? She crouched down in the bed, and an appeal to heaven for help went up from her heart.

Olive said nothing to her aunt about what she had seen. Several nights later the frightful visitation was repeated, and again the poor girl fainted. After that she remained undisturbed, save for peals of mocking laughter which would sometimes reach her ears and which apparently came fro



A HAPPY DAY JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

No suspicion of the truth came to Isabel's mind. She did not think of doubting what Mrs. Lyndon and her daughter had said.

morning Harold Leighton came to Lyndon He was shown into the drawing-room, and tly Ernestine swept into the room, and greeted presently

m cordulty.

The servant informed me that Olive is not at me," he said.

She went away last night. She has gone to visit a you dislike me? What have I done?"

"What have you done? You do well to ask! You

ier aunt who is ill."
"She must have taken a hasty departure."
Ernestine glanced at him quickly.
"They sent for her," she said. "But she left these
or you." And she handed him a dainty note and a

Ernestine giances at him queexis.

"They sent for her," she said. "But she left these for you." And she handed him a dainty note and a package.

Regardless of the lady's presence, he tore the missive open, and read the few lines it contained.

"Great heaven!" he cried, in a voice of intense agony. "What does this mean? She does not love me! I saved her life—she mistook gratitude for love! And this package contains a book I gave her a few days ago, and the engagement ring. I shall go mad!"

He buried his face in his hands. The shock made him weak and dizzy.

"I am very sorry for you, cousin," said Ernestine, gently. "But it is nothing more than I expected. Olive is very changeable."

He raised his white face.

"Pardon me, Ernestine. This is very hard, and I

Presently she was aroused by a vigorous shake. She opened her eyes, and saw Ernestine standing by the bedside.

"Ah! you are still alive," said the latter. "I wa here two hours ago, and removed your engagementing; you did not look at me then," with a disagree able laugh.

"What have you done? You do well to ask! You ave won the heart of the man I love."

have won the heart of the man 1 love.

"But, aunt—"
"Say no more, and I will explain what is absolutely necessary. You are supposed to be visiting your aunt. Harold Leighton has received a note from you which states that you do not love him. The engagement ring is also in his possession. When you are ready to swear solemnly that you will never marry him. I will give you your liberty."
"Harold Leighton is dearer to me than my own life, and I have promised to be true to him," faltered Olive.

and I have promised to be the subject again. When you office of the subject again. When you are ready to accede to my terms, you can say so," "Will you tell me where I am?"
"You are in Lyndon House. But if you cry for help no one can hear you. You are in the third story. It was one of my grandfather's whims to have a dark chamber in his house."

CHAPTER VI.

One day Harold Leighton entered the drawing-room at Lyndon House with the freedom of a privileged visitor, without rapping, and found Ernestine in tears. He would have retreated, but she had seen him, and he felt that it would be better to remain.

and he felt that it would be better to remain.
"I trust nothing has occurred te distress you," he said kindly.
She looked up at him almost defiantly.
"Leave me!" she exclaimed, impetuously. "You have no right to question me."
"Pardon me," he said, alarmed by her emotion. "And why may I not question you?"
"Because you have caused me enough misery—"
She stopped suddenly, and, rising, was about to leave the room. He took her hand and led her to a seat.

ing, was about to leave the room, the took her hand and led her to a seat.

"Ernestine, I do not understand you. Please explain."

"I cannot. But these slanders anger me, as well as wound my feelings."

"What slanders?"

"I will tell you. Remember that you sought the information. Your coming here so frequently since Olive went away has been made the subject of remark, and I have been accused of having schemed to draw you here."

His face flushed. He recalled the silly stories that had reached his ears. And because of them she had suffered. How thoughtless he had been if if any woman's reputation had been injured through his means he must make reparation. And how? Glancing at the pale, distressed face before him he made his decision.

"Ernestine," he said, "you know how dear Olive was to me, and how I lost her. I loved her with my whole soul—she will be the one love of my life. Bat if you can be satisfied with the sincere respect and friendship I feel for you, then I offer myself to you. Will you be my wife, knowing that my heart is not yours?"

She did not reply.

Will you we yours?"

She did not reply.
"You are afraid to risk it?" he said, quietly.
"No. I am not afraid!" she exclaimed. "I will risk everything."
"I will be good to you, Ernestine," he said, with a touch of tenderness. "God helping me, I will make your life as happy as I can."

A carriage dashed along the highway at a fearful rate of speed. The driver had dropped the reins, and the horses were plunging wildly.

The vehicle swayed to and fro, and the occupants—Mrs. Lyndon and her daughter—called loudly for help. Ernestine became frantic with terror, and regardless of her mother's entreaties, sprang headlong from the carriage. Mrs. Lyndon clung to the seat and groaned in despair. At length she saw a man

approaching whom she recognized. It was a young furmer, a tail, strongly-built man.

"Help! help!" she cried.

The horses had slackened their speed somewhat, and the young man sprang forward and caught them by the bits. They plunged madly but his strength seemed almost superhuman, and he did not relinquish his grasp. A look of pain came over his face, but he still struggled bravely with the horses. When they were calmed, Mrs. Lyndon leaned from the carriage and said:

"How can I thank you, sir? Are you injured?"

"Only a sprained wrist—nothing serious," he repited.

"Only a sprained wrist-inothing serious," he repired,
"You shall be rewarded for your bravery. But, oh, my daughter—she sprang from the carriage. We must return at once."
They found Ernestine lying prone upon the ground. She was unconscious.
"My poor child!" sobbed Mrs. Lyndon.
Ernestine was conveyed to Lyndon House, and placed upon a bed, in a handsomely furnished chamber in the second story. A servant was immediately dispatched for a physician. Mrs. Lyndon and Isabel succeeded in restoring Ernestine to consciousness, and Mrs. Lyndon bent down to eatch the words:
"Mother, I am dying."
"On, it was terrible! I am so thankful that you eseighed uninjured. But I am dying, and I must see Olive."

Usabel started and looked inquiringly at Mrs. Lyndon,
"I must see Olive at once," persisted Ernestine.

"You will find the key to the dark chamber in my

sk."
Very well," and Mrs. Lyndon turned away.
'Isabel, I have not always been kind to you," said
nestine, faintly. "Forgive me."

Isabel, Thave not always been kind to you," said Ernestine, faintly. "Forgive me." Isabel could not speak; she stooped and pressed a k so on Ernestine's white hand. Five minutes later Mrs. Lyndon entered the room, accompanied by Olive.
"I am dying, Olive," said Ernestine, "and I cannot die without your forgiveness. I have kept you in that dark chamber for nearly two months—God forcive me. Harold Leighton has been here frequently, and I always told him that I had heard nothing from you. I have been engaged to him now for a few days—but he loves you, and I know that he is very unhappy. You will marry him and be happy."

You are too weak to talk, dear," said Mrs. Lyndon, as Ernestine paused.

You are too weak to talk, dear," said Mrs. Lyndon, as Ernestine paused.
"I must finish—it will not take me long. Oh, Olive, how I have hated you! I dressed myself in white, and with my face concealed by a mask, entered your room twice in the night, hoping to frighten you to death. But your nerves were better than I thought. I think I have been almost insane at times. Mother was cognizant of many of my schemes, but she has rendered me no assistance, and has often begged me to telease you. Amos Ladner, one of my tools, died a week ago, after a brief illness. The only other person who has assisted me in carrying out my plots is our gardener. Olive, can you forgive me?"

Olive's eyes were dim with tears.
"I forgive you freely, Aunt Ernestine," she said. gently.

gently.
At that moment the physician arrived.
Mrs. Lyndon found it hard to believe that her
daughter was dying, but such was the case.
"Do not weep, mother," murmured Ernestine,
"Are you in pain, love?" faltered the old lady.
"No, I do not suffer at all. And I am willing to die.
God is very merciful. I shall rest—in—heaven."
A silence followed, broken only by Mrs. Lyndon's
subdued sobbing. At length the physician said She has left us.'.

Six months later Harold and Olive were married, Mrs. Lyndon is greatly changed. She loves her granddaughter dearly, and Isabel also has a place in her affections.

Olive is a happy wife. Her home is elegant, her life bright, and it is only occasionally that she thinks of the dreary days she passed in Lyndon House.

[THE END.]

\$500 REWARD.

CONTINUED FROM 10th PAGE.

continued from the ladies at Miss Celia's gate. He was agitated and could talk of nothing else. Both the Rollins boys had remained to help—though what they could do was vague enough.

Even Henry Feretzle had gone; having presented himself to his mistress and asked to go with Elna "to look."

All the time, they could see people passing, women as well as men, talking eagerly. The suspicious woman had been arrested, protesting that she was only a member of the Salvation Army, and showing some lurid tracts in evidence; but she had been taken to jall, where at last accounts she was exhorting the prisoners.

Miss Celia wished that Dr. Rollins would not describe the tearless anguish of the mother, "Who yet

only a member of the Salvation Army, and snowing some lurid tracts in evidence; but she had been taken to jall, where at last accounts she was exhorting the prisoners.

Miss Celia wished that Dr. Rollins would not describe the tearless anguish of the mother, "Who yet thinks of everyone," he said with moist eyes, "ran after the nurse girl with a shawl, made her husband take a cup of coffee—and all the time keeps her serves in the midst of the confusion."

Celia felt he heart contract; she remembered her ather in emergencies, so he used to act, this was his true daughter.

Insensibly she felt her stony control giving way under the tide of sympathy. She asked questions: "Who was the playmate that Grace thought she saw? Couldn't they discover something from him?"

Thelieve there is a chance there," cried Mrs. Rollins, "wouldn't Reggy know? Where is he!"

Now Reggy had behaved very queerly, he had been keen to sit at the table with his annty up to that very day; yet immediately before dinner he had sided up to whisper that he didn't want to go to the table, and wanted to stay out with his donkey. He so carefully avoided giving his aunt a rear view of his small person that she suspected some grievous mishap to his ost clother; suspicions that grazed certainty, during dinner, when she heard Teena's voice uplitted wrathfully, through the silde.

"Ishouldn't wonder if he has sat down in the podding." thought Miss Celia.

Never was such a tumultuous dinner known in that well ordered household; the immaculate Maddox forgettling her cap, Lizzie trying to pour champagne out of a corked bottle, sounds of wreek and crash twice emerging from the kitchen.

Ordinarily, Miss Celia's decorous soul would have writted at such service; now, she hardly noticed it her who had a corked bottle, sounds of wreek and crash twice emerging from the kitchen.

Ordinarily, Miss Celia's decorous soul would have writted at such service; now, she hardly noticed it her with the bine, a frightened tenderness for the little helpless, insocent child, h

"Never mind, fetch him in-you will k accidents," with her inextinguishable their Feena-"

A clamor outside, beginning with a plain bellow of rage from Master Reggy and dwindling into furious whispers, caught the words off her lips.

"I think," said Dr. Rollins mildly, "that Teena is bringing in the little boy by force."

"Excuse me," said Miss Gelia. She rose and went to the door; no farther, because, in the hall, Teena was dimly visible pulling Reggy by the arm, Reggy, meanwhile, making splendid play with his legy, whimpering and defying in a breath; "I haven't got to mind you! I won't mind you! I never will run and tell the butcher man to stop for you again, if you don't left me go! Please left me go—please, please. I'll be good—I'll be—"

"If you'd on't quit crying and kicking," says the relentless Teena, "they'll hear you in the dining-room and know you're a naughty boy."

"Teena, what is the matter?" says Miss Celia. "Reggy, what have you been doing to yourself?"

She may well ask, no wonder Reggy shrinks from society and the dining-room gaslight—the beautiful blue velvet front of him is besmeared with cream only partially removed by the disheloth!

"He's tipped the ice cream over on himself from grediness, ma'am," says Teena severely, while the wretched Reggy hangs his head, "yes, Reggy, you know it. This here's the fourth time you've come in for things to eat. A whole plate of grapes, and the ginger and prunes and three saucers of ice cream; I saw with my own eyes, and turkey and salad, and two of them paper cases with oysters! If Mrs. Feretzle wants to give a party when she knows the family's in affliction, she'd ought to get her own vituals with her own money; I say! Yes, ma'am, he pulled the ice cream over him, he did!"

"They weren't for Mrs. Feretzle," sobs Reggy.

"Who is it for, then?" says Miss Celia.

Reggy hides his shamed head in her gown; the answer comes in sobs: "It—it's—for—my—my little dopted sister!"

Four women at once cried or screamed or groaned at him, Mrs. Rollins, Lizzie, Teena and Maddox (by this time all in the hall), and the one man said: "Boy! what do you mean?"

"S

feets had and says she wants to go home. But maybe if I get her the typewriter she'll stay!"
"And what is your sister's name, Reggy?" said Miss Celia.
"Why, Gracie Brace, of course," said the young pirate. "Santa Claus wouldn't give me any 'dopted sister, so I tooked her!"
Not then, but afterwards, they learned all about it, how Gracie had seen Reggy and run around the house to him and been lured away to be his little sister and see his doukey. The cart was in waiting and he hid her under the robes, and drove home unobserved.
Home, they played in the stable, where there was no one but the horses to see them: and finally he carried her to Mrs. Feretzle, who was happily ignorant of all the commotion, having been out in the street when Elna and her husband started. She accepted her without question as a little visitor of Reggy's.
It was Reggy's simple theory that after a long time (and it seemed to him ages since they first visited the donkey) he might display his captive and coax his aunt to keep her. All this story came later. Then, there was only one impulse among the women which caught them up like a cyclone and swept them through the hall, over the lawn to the little cottage back of the stable.
Oh the sweet small face at the lighted window; with the homesick tears on the roseleaf checks! and oh, the sweet small voice exclaiming, "Mamma will tum pretty soon!" Papa will tum pretty soon!"
I think half the witnesses were crying. They fell back and let Miss Celia take her. Thus, Miss Celia met her niece again; but this time, she lifted her in her arms and kissed her and sobbed inarticulate tendernesses in her ear.

"I suppose someone ought to telephone to her mother." suggested Dr. Rollins, in a meck voice.

"Yes," said Miss Celia. And still holding the child in her arms, she walked across the dark lawn, back to the house and through the hall.
No one ventured to speak to her or to offer to help her with her burden.

She rang the bell and herself called Mrs. Brace. Then they heard her answer to an inaudible voice,

"Oh, Tad, think of her poor mother." when she hears that!"

"And think of you being such a wicked boy, Reggy, as to kidnap her!" cried Teena, who always felt herself a sort of policeman of virtue.

At this, Reggy, dazed before, by the rush of events and the inexplicable excitement of "grown people," recovered his power of defence.

"She is my little 'dopted sister," he proclaimed, "and I didn't kidnap her, she gived herself to me. Didn't you, Gracie?"

"Es," said Gracie, "but I want to do home to my mamma. My mamma will be lonesome, she won't have no little girl."

Gracie's mother was not long without her little girl. In an incredibly short time, the door bell rang, and Maddox ushered in a rather short, stoutish young man, with an ugly, clever, attractive face, and a tail, beautiful young woman, both of whom, for a little while, saw nothing in the hall but one tiny shape.

It was the father who spoke first. "And is it you whom we have to thank?" he said, holding out his hand to Miss Celia.

Mrs. Rollins caught her breath and gripped a fold of the doctor's long, clerical coat very hard; but, after all, there was nothing of a scene. Miss Celia took the proffered hand, saying: "No, it is I whom you must forgive, for my little lad was the kidnapper."

The real scene, if there was any scene, happened

after all, there was nothing of a scene. Miss Celia took the profered hand, saying: 'No. it is I whom you must forgive, for my little lad was the kidnapper."

The real scene, if there was any scene, happened after the Rollins were gone- and you may be sure Mrs. Rollins had the tact not to stay long.

The sisters, Gracie, Brace and the erring Reginald (whom they treated rather as if he had conferred a favor on them, so shamelessly, Teena thinks, does justice slip sometimes!) were all in the dining-room. Miss Celia had insisted on the young people, who had eaten nothing all that frightful day, having an impromptu meal. Afterward Brace had tried to help the inevitable constraint by a few commonplaces.

"And these portraits?" said he, "I recognize Gen. Wilder—"

His wife's face made him pause; she had risen and gone up to the canvas and was standing before it. The tears slowly gathered in her eyes.

"Celia," said Brace, in a different tone," there is one thing it is better to say. You do not understand that your sister has learned to love her father. Why the poor child has hunted up every scrap about him; she has read all his speeches. Ever since—"

Celia pushed her chair back, standing before his, white and trembling, taller than he.

"No. Clarence," said his wife.

"Yes, I am going to tell, Grace," said he firmly. "Celia, Grace knew nothing about her father's sickness when she sent that telegram. Madame de Ravillac persuaded her that her father wanted to get her into his power and had sent an invitation (she did not show the telegram) to her to come. They were to leave Chicago for New York and Europe the next day. At that time Grace believed all she was told about General Wilder."

"But my letter to her giving her my father's last message?" said Miss Celia. She put both hands on the chair to steady herself. Mrs. Brace hid her face and sobbed.

"My wife found that letter among her mother's papers," said Clarence Brace, gravely.

There was silence. The children looked on with awd wondering eyes.

Then, "She is dead

fifth..."
"Why, if they aren't crying Gracie, still!" exclaimed Mrs. Brace, to whom it seemed quite miraculous that since her baby was safely found, the whole town should not know it. "Do stop them, Clare."

him.

"Yes," said Miss Celia smiling through her tears, politicness, you could have them cry instead: "Last, December the three to a facility to the three t

THE WORLD'S FAIR FOR A CHRISTMAS PRESENT.

The January Number of Comfort will be a grand affair containing illustrated articles on the World's Fair and many other new features.

Accept the following 8 cent offer and make Christmas presents of trial Subscriptions to your friends, getting the Caskets Free.

A SIX CENTER.

A SIX CENTER.

I USEFUL AND PRACTICAL PREMIUM CASKET, NEARLY NIME INCHES LONG AND THREE INCHES WIDE, CONTAINING 3 BOZEN ARTICLES FREE. Are you one of the new readers of Compount to look at a few more numbers before subscribing for a year. Here is the offer, for only 6 cents we will send Comfort for the next two months, and mail our imperial Needle Casket, containing the following grand assortments free:

One Button Needle, 1 Comp Darner, 1 Carpet Needle, IWool Darner, 1 Tape Needle or Bodkin, together with over two lozen assorted sizes Elastic Diamond point cloth stuck, oval eyed needles, all well pack—

One Compound the proposed of the containing the following grand assortments free:

One Button Needle, 1 Tape Needle or Bodkin, together with our New Catalogue premium list, etc., etc. You can also make money sell ing our goods.

Monse & Co.,

Augusta, Me.

Our Correspondent in Coldwater, Michigan, writes:

Michigan, writes:

I have an interesting case to relate. A family by the name of Buck, living in our city, have a daughter Nellie, 18 years old. A little more than one year since she was taken with the Grippe, and for a time was very bad; but in time got better, when signs of st. Vitus dance appeared, and soon became very darming. A doctor was called and attended her for i weeks, but the patient grew worse, when another loctor was called, who said she ought to have been cared in 4 weeks. But when he had treated her 8 weeks, the mother told me the daughter could neither irress, undress or feed herself. At this time the nother called on the last doctor and told him Nellie was growing worse all the time. He then frankly old her Nellie could never be cured. With a heavy neart sho went home. About that time she was told (was selling Oxien, the wonderful food for the nerves. 3he came to me in person and got a 35c. box, and strange to tell, the first box was not used up before a marked improvement was visible. They kept up its use until she had taken the contents of 6 small boxes, when wonderful to relate she was perfectly cured and is to-day well and hearty. All the foregoing facts I have from the parents and the young lady herself, they live within 29 minutes walk of me, and I have heir permission, and Miss Nellie's also, to make heir permission, and Miss Nellie's also, to make hear facts public. The father's name is Louis Buck. An almost parallel case, though not quite so bad, is hat of a 16 year old son of Mr. Frank Fisk, living 2 nies from in. Had been similarly afflicted, and all nedical skill. Ind fathed, but by a few dollars' worth of the food is now well.

P. S. Yesterday I saw and conversed with the coung man, Fisk, who told me he was now perfectly cured, though he had been so had that he had been obliged to quit his school and all his studies.

Yours truly.

The foregoing, clipped from "Foot-Prints."

The foregoing, clipped from "Foot-Prints," means little when taken alone, but on another page we find the following. Considered together the articles have a meaning that will at once be clear to every Comfort reader, and should be a forcible reminder to every invalid. FOR THE GOOD THE ARTICLE HAS DONE ME I PURLISH A COPY OF A LETTER I HAVE SENT THE PROPRIETORS.

Dublin, Ind., July 15, 1891.

Dublin, Ind., July 15, 1891.

Giant Oxie Co.,

Gentlemen: I was a hopeless invalid for nearly four years; my home physicians all said there was no cure for me. Some said I had heart disease, some dyspepsia and others liver complaint. About six months ago I happened to pick up a scrap of old dirty paper in the street. I never could tell why I picked it up, but the first thing I saw was an advertisement of Oxien, and thought that it was a very extravagant advertisement. I felt that I ought to write to you, and in the course of a few weeks I had a box of your medicine and was taking it. I took two boxes that cost me one dollar and fifty cents, and in three months time I had gained fifteen pounds in weight and I feel like a new man. It has been two months since I quit taking it and I am still gaining strength and health.

Yours very truly.

SAMUEL HUDDLESTON.

Editor and Publisher "Foot-Prints."

Gentlemen:—You may want to know who H. Birney is. I am an old farmer, 60 years of age. I have not been able to work on the farm or do a day's labor for 18 years. You sent me one tablet last spring wrapped up in a circular. The circular told me what the tablet was for, so I thought I would try a box and if I was sold I would be a wiser man. Bepore, I could not do an hour's labor, now I can plow all day or do any common labor, and I am now placing the food among my neighbors. I have several orders for Oxien to-day and nothing to fill them with, so I enclose fifteen dollars for an assorted lot. I received the five dollar lot and it is all sold.

I will devote my time now to selling the food and making old folks young. If any one wishes or get a sample of this food and circular ex-

nd making old folk: to get asample of this food and circular explaining its use write to Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Me. Yourstruly, H. Birney, Seward, Nebr.

Gentlemen:-Enclosed find \$5.00 for which send me as much Oxien as you can conscientiously for a V. I am a regular physician and have been using it

sometime, getting it through your agent. I confess I was a little prejudiced against it, but as a food for the nerves it wrought such benefit to a patient suffering from Nervous Prostration, and another with Cephalalgia following Apoplexy, that

all my prejudices have been over-ridden Yours respectfully,

M. B. LORD, M.D.

BOLD FACE AND FIRM STEP.

BOLD FACE AND FIRM SPEP.

Whitney, S. C. July 23, 1891.

Dear Sirs: —I think it was in Dec. 189 that I sent to you for a lot of Oxien. I had been suffering for three bines from Nervous Prostration. Had tried everything, but no good. Oxien went right to the weak spot and brought me out with a bold face and firm step. All who suffer with weak nerves should try this greatest of remedies. Yours, etc.

1. L. M. ELBATH.

An eminent Professor of Physiology and Hygiene has lately declared that

"STARVED NERVES

Must have suitable FOOD to enable them to perform properly their important functions, and as all MEDIGINES have proved lamentably inadequate to the demands of those overtaxed and delicate little organism.—well known to be the life-springs of all vitid action,—which ern all portions organisms, lasting in its spas modic forded by the COMPOUNDS and necessarily followed by a commensurate reaction.—something else, I claim, in fact an actual

FOOD IS DEMANDED,

in order that the nerves may receive their share of nourishment with the other members, and the equilibrium of the whole system thus be restored."

CAREFUL EXPERIMENTATION and profound research have at last been rewarded by the discover;

Wonderful Food for the Nerves,

which contains, in addition to the valuable vegetable tonics and regulatives, the laxative and soothing properties of a famous MINERAL SPRING water found in this vicinity; also the

Invaluable Strengthening and Nourishing Properties of Liebig's Extract of Beef.

which last, we believe, has not been compounded with any other like preparation in the market.

While all other compounds in the market rely or stimulants exclusively, being vegetable, ours exertive regulative influence of the NATURAL SPRING WATER, and All others rely on stimulation only, which at best is but temporary in its action, and is alloways followed by a correspondingly depressing reaction; has thus giving exercise.

thus giving of product a right ful claim to to title of a FO Our F00D, at the same time that it tones up title of a FOOD for the NERVES which none other has.

the system by the in-fluence of the vegetable tonics, renders this effect constant and enduring by the strengthening properties of the Beef, which adds actual nourish-

ment and sustenance, taking of orders doses will effect a cure; but the regular, faithful and persistent use for a few weeks will be attended with RENETICIAL RESULTS, and the continued use will effect a

other has.

**As the et fects of our Food for the Nerves is CONSTITUTION ALL TOWNS AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO

you must not ex pect that to taking of ones

to the

Vital

PERMANENT CURE by removing he deep-seated cause of disease.

THE BRAIN, Besides serving as the THRONE OF REASON, at the material organ through which the mysterior faculties of the mind work, is the great source and center of all vital animation. Not only a but every more pendent on the healthy action of the primal impairment the Brain,

The Brain,

BEANON, at the great source and center of our body derivation of the primal impairment in the Brain, and even the involuntary as the Brain,

the Brain, and regulated by NERVE FORCE from the Brain. It is not surprising then that exhaustion of the brain hy excessive mental exertion should manifest itself in a general debility and weariness of the whole system; and though less apparent, it is equally true, that many diseases supposed to be purely local have their origin in an unhealthy condition of the brain and spinal cord brought about by physican excesses. This is due to the fact that the brain, when in a debilitated or exhausted condition from various causes, is unable to supply the necessary

causes, is unable to supply the necessary resulting in what appears to be a local disorder. And it has been found by practical experience that even very many of the worst cases of

Ridney, Liver, Stomach,

LUNG, HEART, BRONCHIAL AND CATARRHAL TROUBLES, after all other remedies had failed, have been entirely eradicated by building up the Nervous System and restoring to the brain its lost power and vigor, simply by the most wonderful FOOD FOR THE NERVES. The most wonderful instances of this are seen in Chronic Bases.

Have you a lack of youthful vigor'

Have you a lack of youthful vigor*

Has too close Application to Business it pursuit of the ALMIGHTY BOLLAR, given you we altiof gold and poverty of health, together with the decay of premature old age?

Has Slavery to Fashion or Over-Indulgence in Social Gaities, or the burden: and wornments of motherhood exhausted your strength, bringing on nervous prostration and left you the mere shadow of your former self, or he some congentrate. Influently rendered your his miscrable from its beginning, and blasted your hope of posterity?

Are you troubled with _felessness, Weakness Dizziness or Lassitude?

Doyou lack Firnness, or have Insunicient Strength. Palpitation of the Heart, Aching Loins or Rheums itsin?

tism?
Was Scrofula, or a Freckly Liver-mole Skin giver you as a birthright?
THEN OUR FOOD IS DEMANDED in your case, as it is for Neuralgia, Defect of Taste, Smell or Hearing, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Constipation, Backache, General Debility, CONSUMPTION, and all kindred complaints.

BE ASSURED

That health is still within your reach, and you may again resume the duties and joys of life by building up and restoring your famished and depleted Nerve Power, by the use of our Foods. Feed your impovished and HUNGRY NERVES with the rich nourish.

ished and HUNGRY NERVES with the rich nourishment contained in our highly concentrated food, as thousands before you have done, which our many testimonials will abundantly prove.

This Food is put up in COMPRESSED IABLET FORM, to be more convenient for use and for sending by mail or express any great distance, coming in 35c, and \$1.00 Boxes. GIANT BOXES, size 5xS inches, containing over 119 doses, only \$1.00, oostpaid, Sample Box sent Files, for 10c, mailing. THOUSANDS OF LETTERS containing kind words and Loud Praises can be shown at our office.

ACENTS WANTED.

Parties now making \$5 and \$10 a day easily. Write for special terms at once. Address GIANT OXIE CO., Augusta, Maine

SUNSHINE AND

My DEAR FRIENDS:

This is the blessed month which brought the Christ Child to earth; the month in which the angels sang the message of peace and good will, whose echoes are ringing through the world to-day in spite of the loud-voiced clamor of sin and wrong. How different this earth would have been, if Christ had not come, those of you who know Him as a loving personal Saviour can realize. Let one of our band tell what He has been to her.

"The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him.

had not come, those of you who know Him as a loving, personal Saviour can realize. Let one of our band tell what He has been to her.

"The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.—Isa. 25, 14. I am so glad that you know and love the dear Saviour, mine too. Jesus is very precious to me. I have been confined to my bed over 9 years and last 3 years or more confined partly to bed and wheel chair. I am paralyzed in both my lower limbs. I am also very deaf, cannot even hear the birds sing in the trees; my friends have to write on slate; but, if I cannot hear the voices of my friends, I can hear the still small voice of my loving Saviour, on whom I lean. I am very poor, depending entirely upon charity. I am supported in answer to prayer. The Lord is my banker, my prayers are my checks. I know not what I shall have on the morrow, but this I am sure of, I will have Jesus always. I call all my trials and afflictions my dear Heavenly Father's love-knots' that bind me closer to Him. Trials and afflictions will come, must come, but Jesus comes too. I am all alone in the world, my loved ones are all on the other side of Jordan, where the beautiful mansions are which God has prepared for all those who love Him. I would be delighted to get letters and reading from any who can send. God bless all the readers of the Comwork. Oh may each dear one give their heart to Jesus, both young and old, and may we all meet an unbroken band, with not one link missing, at the right hand of God, when the trials of this life are o'er. (Miss) Tillle Flora Warren.

Locke, Cayuga Co., N. Y."

Dear friend, would that we all could have your faith! We are too apt to worry about to-morrow, forgetting to trust in Him who cares even for the sparrows.

"Like a cradle, rocking, rocking, Silent, peaceful to and fro.

"Like a cradle, rocking, rocking,
Silent, peaceful to and fro,
Like a mother's sweet looks dropping
On a little face below,
Hangs the green earth, swinging, turning
Jarless, noiseless, safe and slow,
Falls the light of God's face, bending
Down and watching us below.

And as feeble babes that suffer,
Toss, and cry, and will not rest.
Are the ones the tender mother
Holds the closest, loves the best.
So when we are weak and wretched,
By our sins weighed down, distressed.
Then it is that God's great patience
Holds us closest, loves us best."

Here are some brave, cheery words from suffering ones. Dear Mrs. Barfell, I feel sure that those bonds will be loosed in God's own time, and you will be set free to do His work. Even now you are doing His will each day in the patient endurance of your suffer-ing.

will each day in the patient endurance of your suffering.

"I enjoy the many letters from the cousins, especially do I like the sentiment of Maria Johnson of Pardeeville, Wisc. I, too, am one of the 'Shut Ins.' Almost II years ago my husband was drowned while in the brave, noble act of saving a fellow being from a like fate. The shock was too much for me, and 8 months later I become an almost helpless cripple, from the effect of articular rheumatism in nearly every joint of my body. I struggled on and on, putting my trust in a higher power, and would never give up to die, though I was for a long time considered by my friends to be at death's door. It is now almost 9 years since I have been able to bear my weight on my feet, and I still suffer terribly and am very weak. Like Mrs. Johnson I am not of the patient sort, although some call me 'a model of patience,' I suppose it is because of my cheerful, hopeful nature. Others do not call me patient. I am impatient with the long delayed loosening of these chafing bonds that bind my physical being. I want to be able to relieve some of the much suffering I see around me. If any, or all of you, would like to write a few lines of cheer to a lonely sister, I would feel a deep thrill of pleasure and gratitude for any such kind thoughts expressed, or for any small useful or ornamental article that any kind cousin may feel like offering as an aid to a good work; for I must consider that what is given into my hand is given to a higher cause than to personal gratification, for the more I have to use, MARY WHITAKER BARFELL, Wauzeka, Wisc."

"I see so many letters from 'Shut Ins,' and I am one of that sort myself, so I thought I would write

MARY WHITAKER BARFELL, Wauzeka, Wisc."

"I see so many letters from 'Shut Ins,' and I am one of that sort myself, so I thought I would write too. I can sympathize with any one who is a 'Shut In,' although I sometimes think it is not so bad after all. It is true we do not have the pleasures and enjoyments others do who have the use of their limbs, but then we have so much more time for reading and fancy work, and so many kind friends who do all they can for our enjoyment and comfort. There is hardly a day passes but some kind friend or little child brings in a bunch of flowers or some little token of love, and then every one is kind to me and so good to lend me books and papers to read to pass off the time. I do love so much to read good interesting reading. I see there are some opposed to novel reading. I see there are some opposed to novel reading. I do not like those trashy dime novels nor do I read them, but I do like a good novel or story with ing. I do not like those trashy dime novels nor do i read them, but I do like a good novel or story with a good moral, I do not think there is any harm in reading them if any one can learn something good and useful from them. I am a cripple from rheumatism, I have had it ever since I was 14 years old (I am now 27) and have been confined to my bed for 9 years, that I have not walked a step, my lower limbs are drawn so that I cannot even sit up, I have not sat up a minute in three or four years, but I am thank all that I have the use of my arms and eyes, I sew, knit, crochet, read and write, lying on my back and side. I piece a great many quilts, and like to piece them very much, I am pieceing the double I rish chain now, it is a beautiful quilt, pleced out of red, white and green. I think Comfort is such a nice little paper; I enjoy reading it so much, and Aunt Minerva is such a good Auntie to publish our letters for us. If any of the cousins have any good reading matter, papers or books, that they are through reading, it haps will send them to me they will be highly appreciated. I will close with much love to Aunt Minerva and the cousins.

MOLLIE C. WILKINSON, Chip, Union Co., Ark."

What an example of patience to those of us who

What an example of patience to those of us who have health and strength! How dare we ever complain of our lot if it is not just what we would have it?

our "beloved physician" is with us again, and is relecome. We are glad to have him come in his own ame this time.

"A letter of mine in the September number of Comport over the nom de plume of Physician seems to have caused a flutter of indignation among some of the good people, readers of Comport. From the tenor of several letters I have received I think others may have misinterpreted the spirit of my letter. I

have been taken to task for saying, 'Get rid of the old-fashioned ideas about getting ready to die, and give attention to learning how to live.' Not having the letter at hand I don't know that I have quoted myself exactly, but that is just what I intended to convey. I did not mean to shock the feelings of the most sensitive Christian. Although I am not a 'professor,' not the least am I a scoffer, and I thoroughly respect the religious views of everyone, whether in accord with my own or not. Christianity is a broad title. One who is a Christian should practice not only Christian virtues but moral ones as well. A Christian will not lie or steal or be mean or licentious. Neither should be stand aside with folded hands and say, 'I am holier than thou.' With many, religion is made a cloak for a multitude of sins. An old colored revivalist preacher once told his flock, 'Git religion and it don't make any difference if you break the whole ten commandments. You'll go straight to glory if you only git religion.' This was the advice of an ignorant old darky, but there are a great many whose education should teach them differently who seem to act on the line of that advice. Men, and women too, who profess to follow Christ's teaching must be judged by their actions. 'By their fruits ye shall know them.' Whether within the pale of the church, or without, actions will tell. I have rather digressed from the subject on which I started to write. My object was to releterate and emphasize what I expressed in a former letter, that was critisized by some; that the invalids who are as constantly looking on the dark side of life, with rather expectation of death than hope of recovery, are the ones who will die in nine cases out of ten. In an experience of twenty-flye years I have known patients to die who might have lived, had they been optimistic instead of pessimistic. I am averse to a public recital of my own invalidism, and simply say in reply to several unknown correspondents who have suggested that I had never known personal di

TMPATHY



CONVINCING.
There is int any Santa Claus,
Said Freddy—aged ten—
(Who thought he knew a great deal more
Than little Cousin Ben).
It's only just your papa,
Don't you know as much as that?
Poor Benny stood with puzzled brows.
And slowly twirled his hat,
Then suddenly he raised his eyes;
"How can it be," he said,
"Old Santa's beard is auful white,
And papa's beard is red."

And papa's beard is red."

found after death. Coming into this life without our volition, we found existing such conditions as were suited to our needs. In our journey up the hill of life, the same sustaining hand upheld us. As we descend the hill, and when in life's late afternoon the shadows deepen and night comes on the same Divine law is ever operative. When our eyes close on this life and open—where? may we not expect to find existing conditions suited to our new birth? Already too long have I trespassed on your space. Permit me in closing to say, while I am pleased to hear from any of the nephews or nieces I would request that they do not write anonymously under a nom de plume. Having the courage of my own opinions, I will drop the pseudonym Physician and write over my own ame. W. E. ANTHONY, M.D., Providence, R. I."

Addresses of those wishing favors:

Addresses of those wishing favors:
Mrs. O. H. Pool, Mrs. M. E. Abbott, So. Cornish, N. H.
Miss Annie Richard, Elk Falls, Kans.
Mrs. Maggie Gamberline, Lilly, Ohio.
Mrs. Rosa Marquis, 619 Louisa St., Chattanooga, Tenn.
B. H., care of E. A. Brewer, 21 W. Market St., Wilkes
Barre, Penn.
Miss Martha Fay, Elgin, Penn.
Mrs. Ida A. Junkins, York Corner, Maine.
With leving wisher that the Charles of the Corner, Maine.

With loving wishes for the Christmas tide.
AUNT MINERVA.

PARAGON, Indiana, Oct. 12, 1891.

I can recommend to the suffering world that Oxien is all that it claims to be. I have used it for nine months for throat and lung trouble. I was a sufferer for five years. Now I can say I am almost a well man. am almost a well man.

ANDREW L. HALE.

No. 7 Warren St., Fall River, Mass., July 25th, 1891.

No. 7 Warren St., Fall River, Mass..

July 25th, 1891.

GIANT OXIE Co., Augusta, Me.:—
About a month ago I obtained from you a \$1.00 box of your Oxien wafers, and although I have not taken them quite regularly, I have tried them sufficient to derive more beneficial results from their use than from any other medicine I ever tried. When I commenced taking them I was afflicted with what the medical profession call tobacco heart, and I had this so bad that my pulse intermitted at times every other beat, causing me great distress and no little alarm. In addition to this I was troubled with all the phases of indigestion. My stomach was so out tone that most everything I ate distressed me. My back was so weak that the least exertion caused me pain, and I was frequently unable to do anything through effects of lumbago and selatica. I have not quite finished my first box of Oxien, but my heart beats as strong and as regular as it did 20 years ago. I can sit down and eat a good square meal of any kind of food without feeling the slightest distress after it, and I haven't got an ache or a pain about my body, and I honestly believe that I am indebted to Oxien for my improved condition.

Yours truly,

ARL'S TREASURE CABINET F GAMES, PUZZLES & MAGIC

A WHOLE TABLE-LOAD OF FUN

CARL has gotten together this great collection of games, &c., assorting up the best from an immense bankrupt stock that we just purchased for loc. on the dollar, and to introduce our great line of Novelties, Books, Magic, and to introduce collections with our catalogue of Fancy Goods, &c. We are collections with our catalogue of Fancy Goods, &c. We are the largest dealers in this line of goods in the market, but we have largest dealers in this line of goods in the market, but we have largest dealers in this line of goods in the market, but we have largest dealers in this line of goods and can only name dealers in this line of goods and can only name of Authors, 48 and, set Dominiocs, Chess and Checker Boards and men for each of Tollecus, Fantonines Boards and men for more considerable of the local control of the loca nly name a few of the articles sent with each lot. Complete sum of Authors, 48 cards, set Dominoes, Chess and Checker oards and men for same. Fox and Geese and other nice oard games. Set alphabetic books, of Tableaux, Pantomime, lower works, Clairvoyant, &c., Fortune, Shadow, and 275 there helpers; 30 choice sets Magic by the dozen; 11 other artor Games; Music, whistle order, Letter Games, &c., all other artor Games; music, whistle order, Letter Games, &c., all of the artor Games; music, whistle order, Letter Games, &c., all other artor Games; music, whistle order, Letter Games, &c., all other artor Games; music, and try and get orders for some in your locality. Enclose 15c, for acking, &c. You can probably dispose of what you don't are to use in the lot for a good large sum of more. We ill send 2 lots for 25c. or 5 for 50c. if you want to dispose of quantity around home. Address

MORSE & CO., Address



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The top revolves so that three colorcan be shown; white, red, and
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Dictionary declares before a paper, bound together."

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Vol. IV.

No. 13. The Silver Ring. By PAUL A. DRAGORIUS. Illustrated.

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DISCOVERY WHICH REVOLUTIONIZES STAMPING OUTFIT BUSINESS.

FOUR COMPLETE ALPHABETS AND 185 LARGE AND ARTISTIC PATTERNS FOR ONLY 50 CENTS.

Stamping patterns have hitherto been made only of the best linen parchment paper, which is very expensive, but after years of study, a new paper has been discovered which can be successfully used for this purpose for all kinds of POWDER stamping, making beautiful, perfect patterns which may be used for powder stamping at least seventy-five times with perfect success. The discovery and use of this new paper permits us to offer fine first-class stamping patterns at one-fourth the regular price, and in this outfit will be found for the small sum of 50 cents, patterns which cannot be equalled by any two \$1.00 stamping outfits in the market. Each outfit contains four complete alphabets suitable for every description of work, two alphabets two inches high, two alphabets one inch high, and 185 beautiful and well-made patterns, many of large size, nearly all of which are named below.

1 Albhabet 14 inch high.

high, two alphabets one inch high, and of which are named below.

1 Set of 28 Initials 1 inches high.

1 Complete Alphabet.

2 Design Love Lies Bleeding 6x7 in.

3 Outline Design Boy with Wagon 7 in.

3 Spray Wheat 3 in. high. (high.)

4 Corner design Fuchsias and Lily-of-librate.

5 Crescent of Wild Roses and Buds.

5 Design Lady's Bust 5 inches high.

6 Design Sunflower 6 inches high.

7 Design Sunflower 6 inches high.

8 Design Sunflower 6 inches high.

9 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

10 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

10 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

11 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

12 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

13 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

14 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

15 Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 in.

16 Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 in.

17 Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 in.

18 Design for silk embroidery 3 in. wide.

19 Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 inches 10 Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 inches 10

1 Mouse. [high. Design Pansies 6 inches high. 1 Design Pond Lilies 5x6 inches. 1 Cluster Fuchsias 4x10 inches. 1 Corner Design Fuchsias and Lilies of Chicken. (the Valley 7x7 inches. Half Wreath Wild Roses and Buds Butterfer. Butterfly. [6x6 inches. Design Good Luck 4-Leaf Clover and l Butterfly.

I Design Good Luck 4-Leaf Clover and I Large Rose Bud.

[Horsesnoe.] Des. Peaches, Leaves and Blossoms.

Des. Wild Roses and Buds 4 in. high.

Design Cherry Blossoms 7 in. high.

Handsome Bouquet 6 inches high.

Outline Des. Girl and Dog 7 in. high.

J Designs Wild Roses 4 inches high.

Palette with Wild Rose for ThermomDaisy.

Frame of ThermomDaisy.

Rose 3 inches high.

Cluster Daisies 6 inches high.

Cluster Daisies 6 inches high.

Cluster Bachelor's Buttons 7 in. high.

L Design "Heathen Chinee." Comic.

Braiding Design with Scallops 3½

I Design "Heathen Chinee." Comic.

Braiding Design with Scallops 3½

I Design Stag's Head 5x5 inches.

Design Stag's Head 5x5 inches.

Design for Cigar Case 4x4 inches.

1 186 beautiful and well-made patterns.

1 Alphabet 1½ inch high.
1 Alphabet 1 inch high.
1 Alphabet 1 inch high.
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1 Spray Carnation Pink.
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1 Design Buttercup.
1 Braiding Pattern 5 in. well
1 Pesign Four Leaf Clover
1 Spray Daisies 6 in. high.
1 Pancing Girl 8 in. high.
1 Pancing Girl 8 in. high.
1 Dancing Girl 8 in. high.
1 Deneing Girl 8 in. high.
1 Poppy Design.
1 Bunch Forget-me-nots.
2 Sprays Daisies 4 in. high.
1 Pesign of Buttercup.
1 Design of Buttercup.
1 Design of Buttercup.
1 Design of Buttercup.
1 Design of Buttercup.
2 Design Salvia 9 in. high.
1 Large Rose Bud.
1 Mushroom 4 inches high.
1 Design of Buttercup.
2 Daisy Designs.
1 Clover Design 1½ inch.
1 Design Wild Roses.
2 Butterflies.
2 Large Butterflies.
1 Anchor and Chain.
1 Scallop with Eyelets.
2 Large Butterflies.
1 Design Pansies 5 in. high.
1 Design Nasturtium 9 inches high.
1 Outline Des. Boy Spin'g Top 6 in. hi.
1 Cluster of Buttercups 6 inches high.
1 Outline Des. Boy Spin'g Top 6 in. hi.
1 Cluster of Buttercups 6 inches high.
1 Design Daisies. (10 inches high.
1 Design Daisies. (10 inches high.
1 Design of Pitcher for tray cloth. Design Daisies. (10 inches high Design Swallow on Bough 3x5 in. Design of Pitcher for tray cloth. Outline Design Boy with Bouquet 8 Clover Design. 1 Design of Pitcher for tray cloth.
1 Outline Design Boy with Bouquet 8
1 Clover Design.
2 (inches high.
1 Outline Design for tidy & Tinches.
1 Spray Golden Rod 5 inches high.
1 Outline Design of Girl 8 inches high.
1 Outline Design Girl 5 inches high.
1 Corner Design Danisles and Bachelor.
1 Bunch Grapes. [Buttons 8x8 inches. Ispray Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.
1 Design Rose Buds and Leaves.
1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilies of 1 Frog.
1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves.
2 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves.
3 Spray Wheat.
4 (5 inches high.
3 Cluster Apple Blossoms 4x5 inches.
3 Spray Danisles 4½ inches high.
3 Design Wild Roses 5 inches high.
3 Design Wild Roses 5 inches high.
3 Half Wreath Dalisles 8x8 inches.
3 I Pretty Little Miss 7 inches high.
3 Design Tiger Lily 6 inches high.
4 Design Tiger Lily 6 inches high.
5 Design Tiger Lily 6 inches high.
6 ever been advertised before in a single contraction of the contraction of

3 Designs of Roses and Buds. 1 Design of Lity 5 inches high. 1 Scallop Design with Corner. 2 Designs Forget-me-nots. Wheat Design. Carrier Pigeon 4x4 inches. Star.

Spray Jonquil 5 inches high. Spray Violet. Design for Glove Case.
Design Tulips 3 inches high.
Rabbit's Head.
Design Snowball. Rabbut's riead.
Design Snowball.
Design for Silk Embroidery
Design Violet. (2 in. wide.
Cluster Strawberries.
Spray Sumac 4 inches high.
Peacock's Feather.
Bunch Cherries.
Calla Lily 4 inches high.
Design Pansy 3 inches high.
Design Pansy 3 inches high.

1 Design Pansy 3 inches high.
1 Design Leaf.
2 Discs 4 inches across.
1 Design May Flowers 3x4 in.
1 Design Horse.
1 Dromedary's Head.
1 Cluster Leaves 4x5 inches.
1 Clover Design 4 inches high.
1 Tiger's Head, etc., etc.

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No such combination of patterns have ever been advertised before in a single outfit as they could not have been sold at a less price than \$2.00 per set, and here we offer everything named above, all sent postpaid for only 50 cents from the form of the form

I.IMITED OFFER. Send 50 cents for a years subscription to Comport and receive this outat ree; or outfit Given Free for a Club of 4 yearly Subscribers at 25 cents each.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

WILL give this month a few questions on the next period of English History, the Saxon Age, A.D. 449 to A.D. 827.

1. Who were the Saxons, and what led them to Britain?

2. Effect of this invasion on the Britons.

3. What was the Saxon Heptarchy?

4. Give an account of the work of St. Augustine in Britain.

The semi-mythical history of King Arthur is included in this period; and I will offer a prize of a year's subscription to Comfort for the best short essay on his career, to be sent in before Jan. 15. This competition is only for those who are registered as members of the Club before Dec. 1; but others may send name and age at any time, and thus be on hand for the next competition.

ENGLAND BEFORE AND DURING THE INVASION OF THE ROMANS.

England in the early ages was not known by that name, but under the name of Britain.

The ancient Britons were divided into as many as thirty or forty tribes, each tribe hav-ing its own king or chief, as is customary with savages.

ing its own king or chief, as is customary with savages.

Their houses were made of logs and mud, straw-covered, and their villages a collection of these huts surrounded by a low wall of mud and logs. They made light shields, short pointed daggers, and spears with rattles for frightening horses.

The religion of these Britons was a medley of superstition and fetichism, having been brought from France, or, as anciently called, Gaul, and mixed with the worship of the sun, moon and serpent, accompanied by human sacrifice in wicker baskets.

This was the condition of Britain (afterward

wicker baskets.

This was the condition of Britain (afterward in the reign of Egbert it was called England) 55 B.C.

This was the condition of Britain (afterward in the reign of Egbert it was called England) 55 B.C.

The Romans under Julius Cæsar were then the masters of the whole known world. He resolved to conquer Britain next. His force was 80 vessels and 12,000 men. Some of his vessels were driven on the shore and shattered by the storm, thus losing his horse soldiers. He was beaten by the Britons several times, and conquered them also; but when they proposed a peace he gladly accepted it, and left Britain, only to return the following spring with 800 vessels and 30,000 men.

The Britons choose a chief whom the Romans called Casswellaunus, but whose British name is supposed to be Caswallon. He and his men fought like lions, but because the other chiefs were jealous of him and were fighting each other and him, he gave up and proposed peace, which Julius Cæsar was glad to grant so easily, and go away with his remaining ships and men. He expected to find pearls in Britain, but found only oysters and tough Britons.

They now had peace for a space of a hundred years. During this time their mode of life changed considerably, as they learned from the Gauls and Romans.

At last, the Roman Emperor Claudius sent the skilful general Aulus Plautius against them, and later came himself; but neither accomplished much. Osterius Scapular was next sent. Some of the chiefs submitted to him, but Caradoc, a chief of the mountaineers of North Wales, resolved to fight for their homes. He addressed his soldiers before battle, saving, "This day decides the fate of Britain! Your liberty, or your eternal slavery dates from this hour. Remember your brave ancestors, who drove the great Cæsar himself across the sea."

They were repulsed; the brave chief's wife and daughter were taken prisoners, his brothers surrendered themselves, and he was betrayed by his stepmother into the enemy's hand, and caried to Rome.

He endured imprisonment as bravely as he had fought: and so dignified were his actions that he was released with his family, but it is not kn

or not.

But Britain was not yet conquered, for the Britons of Norfolk and Suffolk rose to avenge insult to their Queen Boadica. They drove Catus into Gaul, and destroyed every possession of the Romans in those two provinces, 70,000 Romans perishing in a few days.

Suetonius returned with an immense army and conquered them, but as soon as he left they rose again.

Agricola came fifteen years after to subdue the northern part of the island, but the Caledonians, rather than become prisoners, killed their wives and daughters and fought to the death. But at last Rome needed her soldiers at home, and abandoned the idea of conquering Britain.

Thus 500 years passed under invasions by the omans.

PENNSYLVANIA PIPER.

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS OF THE SEPT. ISSUE.

pitants of Englan called Celts, and when first visited by civilized Europeans, the island was in full possession of the Celtic tribes.

the Celtic tribes.

3. These aborigines were not unlike other savages in their manners and customs. They were a brave but barbarous people who were divided into thirty or forty tribes, each of which was commanded by a chief. They lived in straw-covered huts with the flesh of their animals for food and their skins for clothing. They were clever in making basket work and their skill in training horses was quite wonderful.

4. The Druids were their priests, and they had reat power over the islanders, who believed in terrible religion called the religion of the

5. Julius Cæsar first invaded Britain.
6. During a period of five hundred years the Romans made frequent invasions into Britain for the purpose of conquering it. Among the invaders who followed Julius Cæsar were Aulus Plautius, Suetonius, Agricola, Hadrian and Severus. Caracalla, son of Severus, did much to conquer them. Agricola took the island of Anglesay and built a great wall of earth more than seventy miles long, extending from New Castle to Carlisle, for the purpose of keeping out the Picts and Scots. This was strengthened by Hadrian, and rebuilt of stone by Severus. But these and the numerous other invaders at length left Britain forever, having much im-

proved the condition of the country in many ways.
7. The influence that the Romans had over

The influence that the Romans had over

7. The influence that the Romans had over the Britons was to greatly improve their entire mode of living.

8. Augustine, a. Roman monk, introduced Christianity into Britain in A.D. 596.

9. Traces of the Roman occupancy are still found, such as pieces of pavement, old money, fragments of plates, goblets, etc., when digging for cellars and other purposes. Severus's wall still stands, a strong ruin. Roman wells still yield water and traces of old Roman camps are found.

10. Yes, as a portion of the English language is derived from the Latin.

Grace C. Deming.

GRACE C. DEMING.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN OCT. ISSUE.

Answers to Questions in Oct. Issue.

1. In 55 B.C. the Romans invaded Britain to punish the Britons for aiding the Veneti (a tribe in Gaul) against the Roman power.

3. In the year (about) 140 A.D. the Romans built a barrier between the Firths of Forth and Clyde, to restrain the native tribes from encroaching on the acquired Roman territory; and as it was during the reign of Antoninus. In (about) the year 210 A.D. the Romans were defeated and the wall was rebuilt by Severus, and was then called the Wall of Severus.

4. Boadica was the warrior queen of the Iceni, a tribe on the eastern coast of Britain. In (about) 60 A.D. her husband died and gave his property and his two daughters to Nero, the Roman emperor. By this he thought to gain protection from Roman invasion, but not so. The Romans took advantage of the weakness of the tribe, and Boadica was scourged, her two daughters insulted, and the noblest and truest of the Iceni were made slaves. This enraged the Britons. Boadica with a large force moved against the Romans and they were defeated, there being 70,000 Romans destroyed mostly by torture. Suetonius, the Roman governor, now moved against Boadica, and she was totally defeated. Eighty thousand Britons were slain, while the Romans only lost 400. Boadica was so discouraged that she committed suicide.

5. There was a continual struggle from (about) 8 A.D. until 210 A.D., when the Romans were obliged to submit and gave up the territory.

Opinions differ about the introduction of Christianity into Britain. That it was introduced there long before the time of Augustine seems certain, as Tertullian, in his work concerning the Jews, written A.D. 209, speaks of "the gospel of Christ having been carried into the waste places of Britain." Some writers advance the theory that St. Paul visited that country, as several of the most active years of his life are not accounted for in the Acts of the Apostles; but this is as mythical as the visit of St. Brendau to Mexico.

**Address all communications for this department to

Address all communications for this department to MEGANESAN, (Care of COMFORT.)

From the

Evening Star.

SONGS

AMERICAN

IRISH,

SCOTCH,

ENGLISH

of

Sel

Again Appeared in New England.

It Has Many Victims in Connecticut and Rhode Island Towns.

AUGUSTA, Me., October 19. There are a large number afflicted with the great epidemic in all parts of the country, as thousands of letters are pouring in to the Giant Oxie Co. of this city enquiring about and ordering Oxien, the wonderful food which did such great service in stopping La ful food which did such great service in stopping La Grippe last season. The sales for this great La Grippe killer have doubled right up, and many realizing that "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure" are ordering a supply of Oxien to keep on hand, and take a sufficient quantity daily to fortify their systems against the inroads of this dread disease which will surely get in its work unless headed off by a free use of Oxien before the severe fall and winter weather sets in. We advise you to order a supply early, as later when the rush comes there may be delays in filling orders.

PLAINFIELD. Conn., October 15.

PLAINFIELD, Conn., October 15.

Something of the nature of La Grippe has struck this section of the State in carnest. Never since the epidemic of 1868 has such suffering from catarrhal and lung diseases prevailed here. Nine-tenths of the citizens of this town are suffering with these epidemic colds. Drug stores and local physicians are dealing out quinine in great quantities, and the ravages of La Grippe of two years ago are pushed into the shade. Farmers, mechanics, professional men, and even idlers, are sneezing and coughing, many of them being confined to their homes.

In Moosup the disease resembles typhoid fever, and commences with a severe cold. Two deaths have been reported here.

JEWETT CITY Con-

JEWETT CITY, Conn., October 15. JEWETT CITY, Conn., October 15.

La Grippe has struck us again. Every one who is
of a delicate constitution is suffering with the
malarial disorder that seems to be epidemic. In
some instances the coughing and sneezing have been
accompanied by violent raising of blood. Mrs. J.
Shannon died Wednesday evening of typhoid pneumonia. Many of those in the shops and stores who
are suffering with the epidemic are in great danger of
typhoid pneumonia.

typhoid pneumonia.

GREEN STATION, R. I., October 15.

Nearly every man, woman, and child in this town who has strength to sneeze or cough, is suffering with a mild form of La Grippe. Several deaths in Kent county the past week have been traced directly to one of these same colds that are, if anything, more severe than the ravages of La Grippe in 1889.

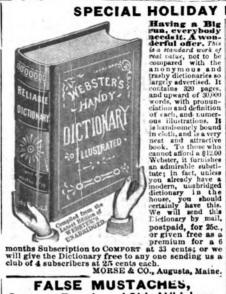
This busy mill town is undergoing an epidemic of La Grippe nature. John Doyle, William Collins, H. C. Hervey, and others are among the worst sufferers. No deaths have thus far resulted from the complaints that have their origin in one of these so-called colds.

that have their origin in one of these so-called colds.

CENTERVILLE, R. I., October 15.

One-half of the population of this place is suffering with severe colds. In some parts of the town, which has a score of large cotton factories, the machinery is stopped on account of the ravages of the epidemic. The real danger scens to lie in pneumonia or typhoid fever following, which results fatally in fully one-half the cases. Medical authority traces the peculiar and severe colds to the changeable and uncommon fall weather, the atmosphere carrying showers of microbes, that are doing their fatal work on every hand. Over the line in Connecticut several serious cases are reported.

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Miss Lucy Long
Miss Wrinkle
Modest bachelor
Molly Bawn Bessy's mistake Betsy Baker lly da-lly raftsman mny Boker anita athleen Aroon atty darling aty's letter

come back to Eri Concealment Darby the blast Dearest Mae Departed days Dermot Astore Ding, dong, bell Don t come late Dream is past Emerald Isle Ever of thee Fairy tempter Far well ladder Farmer's boy Flnigat's wake Flee as a bird

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JANUARY, 1892.

By Morse & Co. Augusta, Me.



HRISTOPHER Columbus began his seafaring life when he was a lad of fourteen. Thereafter he made many voyages and in this practical way, and by endless study of navigation and geography, prepared himself for the accomplishment which has made his name and fame enduring. He was an old man of nearly sixty when at last, after several years of weary waiting upon dignitaries, he succeeded in securing from Queen Isabella of the proud court of Castile the support and help he needed to equip his expedition of discovery. "I undertake the enterprise for my own crown of Castile," she said. "I will pledge my jewels for funds." And so in August, 1492, Columbus sailed with three vessels from the port of Palos.

Far-seeing man though he was Columbus could not know when, upon that far off 14th of October, he first stepped on the shores of San Salvador, that he had given to the world a continent. No human being, however gifted with imagination, could foresee that in four centuries—a time brief comparatively in the life of the world—that continent was to become the haply home of so many million people and the seat of the greatest civilization the world has known. His was a great achievement, great in itself and momentous in its results.

His was a great achievement, great in itself and momentous in its results.

To fitly celebrate and recognize the four hundredth anniversary of the landing of Columbus, a proposal was made in 1886 that a World's fair be held in the United States in 1892 and ex-Governor Claffin of Massachusetts was elected President of a Board of Promotion. He took steps to bring the matter before Congress, and in July of that year Mr. Geo. F. Hoar reported in the U. S. Senate a resolution for the appointment of a committee of Senators and Representatives to consider the method and manner of the celebration if it should be deemed wise to celebrate at all. No further action was taken at that time; but in 1889 a spirited agitation was begun in various parts of the country, and as a result of this agitation and after much friendly rivalry among the representatives of the several cities whose inhabitants believed their own to be the proper location for the exhibition, an act was passed providing for the celebration and designating Chicago as the place. The act gave the sanction of the nation to the enterprise and provided for the appointment of a commission to consist of two commissioners from each State and territory to be nominated by the Governors, and eight commissioners at large to be appointed by the President. The commission was empowered to accept the site and places of buildings to be erected to be offered by a corporation organized under the laws of Illinois, known as "The World's Exposition of 1892," provided that the site and proposed buildings seemed to them to be a lequate, and provided that they were satisfied that the local corporation had a subscription which should secure the payment of five million dollars and that the corporation would be able to provide a farther sum of five million dollars, making ten million in all, in ample time for its needful use during the prosecution of the work for the complete preparation for the fair.

needful use during the prosecution of the work for the complete preparation for the fair.

The duties of the Commissioners are stated in the act and their power to allot space, to classify the exhibits and to make all rules and regulations necessary for the government of the exhibition, to make rates for entrance and admission fees and, in short, to manage the affair. The act further provided that when the President should be notified that provision had been made for the necessary buildings and that the ten million dollars should be raised or satisfactorily arranged for, he should make proclamation through the Department of State, setting forth the time of the continuance of the exposition, and inviting foreign nations to take part in the exposition and to apppoint representatives. The act provides for the entry of foreign exhibits without the payment of duties unless they should be sold for delivery after the fair wher, of course, the duty whatever it may be will have to be paid.

The act states that the General Government is not to be liable for any debts of the fair; but liberal provision is made for the Government's exhibit, including four hundred thousand dollars for a Government building; and for the expenses of transportation and care of the building and the expenses of the commission two hundred thousands are appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891. The total liability of the United States is not to exceed \$1,500,000.

A naval review in the harbor of New York in April, 1893, is arranged for; but that is not a part

A naval review in the harbor of New York in April, 1893, is arranged for; but that is not a part of the World's fair. By an amendment subsequently passed the date of the fair was changed, the time being too short for adequate preparation by 1892, and the fair is to be held from early spring until late fall of 1893.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.

OF THE MOREOS

COMFORT'S VIEW





WINTER FASHIONS.

As the season progresses fur will be the ultra-modish material for garnituring cloth and vel-vet street costumes. In the first illustration you will find represented a charming prome-



FUR TRIMMED STREET DRESS.

FUR TRIMMED STREET DRESS.

nade toilet in heliotrope cloth, garnitured with fur and with silk brandenburgs. The front width of the skirt is also trimmed with the fur and silk ornaments. The fronts of the jacket have pockets cut into the stuff, the openings being trimmed with the silk ornaments which must be a somewhat darker shade than the cloth. The fur may be otter or any dark fur. The front of the corsage buttons to the jacket on the underside.

The pelerine cloak is one of the most modish things of the moment. These garments are much longer than those which were worn last spring and reach half way down the skirt of the dress. If you ask me whether they are becoming or not I must answer: It all depends. Some women look well under all circumstances, in fact, they can't make guys of themselves if they try, but not so with others. They must be on their guard continually lest some cut or make-up or style of trimming or color or shade mar their good looks and rob them of their grace. This pelerine is a garment that may easily destroy a woman's grace of figure and the pleasing characteristics of her peculiar style. Now a long wrap reaching quite to the feet is in most cases a dressy and stylish garment for any woman, but not so this pelerine. They are neither one thing northe other. They give one the appearance sometimes of having run short of stuff; and still when made up in thick cloths in a shade that goes well with your coloring, and richly trimmed and lined with silk of some bright, warm contrasting shade, they are really very stylish, but it all depends upon the wearer. As the season advances you'll see them made up entirely in astrachan which



is now used merely for trimming. However, in order that you may be able to judge for yourself, I set one of these pelerines before you in my second illustration and a very stylish one it is, too, consisting of a velvet jacket with the pelerine in brocaded Himalaya. The jacket extends fifteen or eighteen inches below the waist line and closes in front with hooks and eyes. The back and sides of the jacket are quite hidden by the pelerine and need not therefore be made of velvet. It is quite necessary first to complete the jacket portion of the garment before proceeding to drape the cloth. In the draping, I should add, lies the secret of a stylish effect and the softness and suppleness of the material renders it well adapted for draping purposes. Care must be taken to simulate a velvet yoke in draping. The cloth must be sewed to the epaulets and also at the back, but be made to fasten with a hook in front on the right side.

Taking up now the question of a long mantle, let me describe a rich and stylish design for a

be made to fasten with a hook in front on the right side.

Taking up now the question of a long mantle, let me describe a rich and stylish design for a long cloak which may be made up in cloth or velvet. This particular one is in velvet and well adjusted to the figure in the back, and falls in folds. In front the right side is fastened to the left with hooks. The front of this elegant garment is made in plastron style and is covered with feather trimming. There are revers with broad volants set in bretelle fashion. These last reach at the back also almost to the waist. The overlapping front is edged with feather trimming. This mantle may be lined with surah of a large plaid, dark ground with light stripes. A feather muff of the same nature as the feather plastron completes this very stylish costume. I have still another

pelerine to mention. It may be made up in almond or fawn colored cloth and be trimmed with pearl passementerie, or embroidered with silk twist, or, if you prefer, in raised embroidery. The yoke must lie flat and be covered with the motive chosen, which should be repeated on the fronts of the garment. The back seam is concealed under a pleat of the material. The pleats must not be attempted except with the aid of a dress form. A style and character are given to these pelerines by the addition of a handsome silk-lining in a bright tone.

PRIZE ESSAY, NO. 2.

THOUGHTS ON BEN-HUR.

It is no easy task to gather together connectedly, and set down in an interesting form for the eyes of others, the thoughts and sentiments that may have been aroused by the perusal of some tale of fiction, or of fact. Thoughts, sentiments, there may be; in the thoughtful reader, such must ever exist. Yet how difficult is it, to give outward expression, to that which is in the heart! The most facile pen loses its switness, as if reluctant to begin the task before it.

Before the beauty, and simple solemnity of such a book as "Ben-Hur," the grandest of criticism seems but childish folly, and those all mere foolish quibbles; resting, like tiny bubbles on the water, for a moment in the minds of the public, and then like them to disappear, leaving only the name of Ben-Hur, to shine as does a meteor in the sky, in the horizon of fame.

were I critic of the best standard, I should hesitate before the open pages of this book, and for a moment pause, ere I laid a desecrating hand upon it; and I ask that those who may read this, will remember that what I shall set down here, are merely the thoughts and feelings excited in my heart by this Tale of The Christ, and not criticism.

In this era in the literary world of action and romance, "Ben-Hur" has not passed by unnoticed, and there are few, I think, among the varied fortunes of the Son of Hur, who do not recognize its superiority over the majority of fictitious works.

Presenting, as the titlepage of the book, the public and the interest which for eleven years it has excited in the public mind, we gaze for a moment upon this, then with reverent fingers turn the titlepage, to seek in the book itself the secret of this charm. Thus viewing with thoughtful sight this creation of the novelist, as we turn the chapters slowly with inexperienced hand, we come, with quickened breath and lightened eye, to that part wherein we feel lies mostly the secret of its fame. I speak of the life of The Christ.

I have selected as a titlepage to the narrative, the interest of the public; throughout it is a type of the life of any member of the human family to-day. In it we read of pomp and power, of poverty and humility, of strife and bloodshed, of joy, and sorrow, all to end in The Christ. So our lives go on from day to day, blending together in the woof of life the dark and golden threads, dotting it here and there with bright hopes and ambitions, and then at last to end, with many of the shining hopes and ambitions together in the word of life the dark and golden threads, dotting it here and there with bright hopes and ambitions, and then at last to end, with many of the shining hopes and ambitions while many the same and ambitions and then at last to end, with many of the shining hopes and ambitions, and then at last to end, with many of the shining hopes and ambitions, and then at last to end, with many of the b

the wrath to come," the golden mountains and pearly gates of the New Jerusalem may never dawn.

Another favorable characteristic of this book, and one perhaps worth noting, is the time in which the several events are narrated as taking place. Not only is it interesting as the most eventful period in the world's history; but in this age of steam, when all is hurry and bustle, and no man has time to think of his neighbor, when all things are modernized, it is almost with a sense of relief that we turn to rest for a while in the quaint, quiet manners of ye olden time, and a glimpse of the ancient Jerusalem and its people.

It may also be worth remarking, that in this work of his pen, the author has given us to see the better and nobler side of the Jewish character. To-day, when the name of Jew is spoken, sometimes with respect, oftener in derision, it is hard for us to realize that a Jew, the possessor of such a character as that ascribed to Ben-Hur, should ever have existed, yet there is reason to believe that at that time, at least among the wealthier classes of the Sadducees, a character like that of Judah was rather the rule, than the exception.

I will say but little more. That much more might be said on this subject, I frankly acknowledge. That I have not even given adequately my thoughts on it, I do not deny. A book almost might be filled with the fair, beautiful thoughts that stand out like shining gold upon the bosom of its pages; but it is for others to tell of their loveliness. The thoughts of the heart are hard to give expression to, and before the beauty of the subject the pen falls useless.

But before I lay it aside, I would say but one word more. For you when we read this let me

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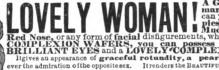
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Please mention Comfort when you

A Happy New Year to you all, Sister Bees!
You look as bright and cheerful this morning as if you were sure it was going to be a happy year, the very best one that ever came to you. And how did you get on with your Christmas work? We all like to make presents for our friends—yes, and receive them too; but I confess that here in the Hive we drew a long breath of relief when the day was over.

Let me see, we were going to crochet this time. I see you have all brought your thread and hooks. And that reminds me, did you know that when you are trying a new edging pattern, it is ever so much easier to use fine knitting cotton and a bone needle? Thread seems to be possessed of a little evil spirit sometimes, and kinks and knots until your patience is quite exhausted, while steel hooks have a malice all their own. Who will try my way to-day? here are some balls and hooks.

"I will, gladly," says Blossom, "for I have forgotten to bring my hook. And now if you are all ready for work, just let me teach you a pretty insertion, while I have the floor. It is called

DOUBLE CROSS INSERTION.

DOUBLE CROSS INSERTION.

Chain 53 stitches.

1st row.—1 dc in 7th st, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st, 3 dc in next 3 sts, *ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st, 5 dc in next 3 sts, *ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st, 3 dc in next 3 sts, *ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st, repeat twice more, *3 dc in next 3 sts, *ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st, repeat 3 times more, *3 dc in next 3 sts, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st, 6h 2, 1 dc in 3d st, 3 dc in next 3 sts, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st, 3 dc in next 3 sts, ch 2, 1 dc in 1 ast st, ch 5, turn.

2d row.—4 dc on 4 dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, ch 2, 1 dc on dc, ch 2, 1 dc on dc, repeat twice more, *2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, ch 2, 1 dc on dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, ch 2, 1 dc on dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, ch 2, 1 dc on dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, 2 dc under 2 ch, 1 dc on dc, ch 2, 1 dc on dc, c

6th row—Like first.

Very pretty, Sister Blossom. I wonder if any of the Bees can give us an edging to match this? We should all like it, I know. Did I hear a voice from that farther corner? Come right forward and let us hear from you. Oh, it is Maggie O'Brien, who has come all the way from Nebraska to be with us. "I am just reminded of another pretty insertion," she says, "and thought the Bees might like it."

Yes, indeed, give it to us right away. We will name it

will name it

HANDSOME INSERTION. Chain 33.

Chain 33.

1st row.—Tr in 4th st, ch 3, skip 3, 3 tr in next st, ch 1, 3 tr in same place, this makes a shell; ch 3, skip 3, 12 tr in next 12 st, ch 3, skip 3, shell in next st, ch 3, skip 3, 2 tr in last 2 sts, turn.

2d row.—Ch 3, tr in tr, ch 3, shell, ch 3, 3 tr on tr, ch 2, skip 2, 2 tr in next 2 tr, ch 2, skip 2, 3 tr in 3 tr, ch 3, shell, ch 3, tr in tr, tr in loop.

3d row.—Ch 3, tr in tr, ch 3, shell, ch 3, 2 tr on 2 tr, ch 2, tr in loop, ch 2, 2 tr in last 2 tr, ch 3, shell, ch 3, tr in tr, tr in loop.

4th row.—Like second row.

Begin at first row.

ast 2 tr, ch 3, sneil, ...

4th row.—Like second row.
Begin at first row.

"Just one more," exclaims Anna Dickieson;

"this is such an odd one, and can have any
scallop attached to it, making a lovely edging.
The name of it is Shower of Hail.

Ist row.—Make *1 long
ch st, catch up the thread
you draw through with
the hook, pull through
with a slip st, until you
have 7 or 8 long ch sts,
turn.



turn.

2d row.—Ch 3 rather tight 2 long ch as in 1st row, catch down on each side of knot with a single crochet, *2 more loose ch as b. fore, skip 1 knot and fasten down on each side of next knot as in 1st one, * until you have finished the row.

3d row.—Same as 2d,

3d row.-Same as 2d

What is all this rust-ling and whispering among the Bees, and trying to push some one forward? No one ought to be bashful in this Hive.

"Alma Magee has such a pretty lace here which she made up herself, and we are trying to get her to show it to all the Bees," explains a voice.

Oh, but we must see it, sister Alma! That is indeed a beautiful pattern; please teach us how to do it right away. Now, all attention, and we will try

ALMA'S LACE.

Chain 44 stitches.

1st row.—3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc in 4th st, 1 dc over ch, 3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc in 13th st, ch 12, 3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc in 30th st, 7 dc over ch, 3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc in 13th st, ch 2, 1 dc in last st, ch 5, turn.

2d row.—1 dc in dc, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 12, 1 dc in 1st st of shell, ch 5, turn.

3d row.—1 dc in 1st st of shell, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 12, 1 dc in 1st st of shell, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 18, shell in shell, ch 18, shell in shell, ch 18, shell in shell, ch 19, shell in shell shell shell shell shell shell shell shell shell sh

turn, 1 dc in each dc, ch 3, turn, 1 dc in each dc, ch 3, turn, 1 dc in each dc, shell in shell, ch 2, 1 dc in last st of shell, ch 2, 1 dc in in shell, ch 2, 1 dc in last st of shell, ch 2, 1 dc in in shell, ch 2, 1 dc in in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in shell, 7 dc over ch of 3, shell in shell, ch 12, shell in shell, 7 dc over ch of 3, shell in shell, ch 12, shell in shell, ch 13, shell in shell, ch 16, shell in shell, ch 16, shell in shell, ch 17, dc in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st of ch 5, ch 5, turn.

6th rew.—1 dc in dc, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 13, shell in shell, ch 12, shell in shell, ch 2, 1 dc in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st of ch 5, ch 5, turn.

7th row.—1 d ci in dc, ch 2, repeat from *3 times, 1 dc in 1st dc of shell, ch 2, shell in shell, 7 dc over ch of 3, shell in shell, ch 12, shell in shell, 7 dc over ch of 3, shell in shell, ch 1, 1 dc in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st of ch 5, ch 5, turn.

8th row.—1 dc in dc, ch 1, shell in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 2, 1 dc in last st of shell, 1 dc in next 12 sts, ch 2, 1 dc in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st of 5 ch, ch 5, turn.

9th row.—1 dc in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in mext 13 dc, ch 1, 1 dc in 1st st of shell, ch 2, shell in next 12 cts, ch 2, 1 dc in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in mext 13 dc, ch 1, 1 dc in 1st st of shell, ch 2, shell, 7 dc over ch of 3, shell in shell, ch 8, catching the corner of the square made in that row with the ch; ch 3, shell in shell, ch 1, 1 dc in each dc, ch 3, turn.

10th row.—1 dc in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in next 13 dc, ch 1, 1 dc in each dc, ch 3, turn.

10th row.—1 dc in dc, shell in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 12, shell in shell, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st of 5 ch, ch 5, turn.

10th row.—1 dc in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in next 13 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 1st st of shell, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 3, shell in shell, ch 12,

ch 2, 1 de in de, ch 2, 1 de in 3d st of 5 ch, ch 5 turn.

13th row.—*1 de in de, ch 2, repeat frem *9 times, 1 de in 1st st of shell, ch 2, shell in shell, 7 de over ch of 3, shell in shell, ch 12, shell in shell, 7 de over ch of 3, shell in shell, ch 1, 1 de in de, ch 2, 1 de in 3d st of ch 5, ch 5, turn.

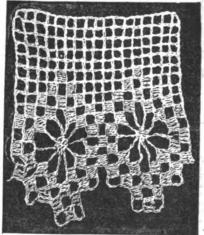
This completes one scallop, and after crocheting a sufficient length, crochet an edge around, the scallop like this:

1st row.—Fasten thread at 1st open square of scallop, in next make 2 de, ch 1, 2 de, repeat in every alternate space till the point of the scallop is reached, in that make 2 de, ch 1, 3 de, ch 1, 3 de, ch 1, 2 de, then 2 de, ch 1, 2 de, in every alternate space on other side of scallop; repeat for the whole length.

2d row.—7 de in each shell affd 1 sc between each shell of preceding row.

"Do you ever make Spider Web Lace, sisters?"

"Do you ever make Spider Web Lace, sisters?" asks Harriet Saretzky of Wisconsin. "I think it is a very simple and easy pattern, and you will be sure to like it. And while I think of it, will Mrs. Wilson bring a sample of her Pineapple Lace for me some time? The directions in my Comport were blotted, and I could not read them. Now for the



SPIDER WEB LACE.

1st row.—Make a ch of 34 sts, 1 tr in 6th st of ch, 3 tr in next 3 sts, ch 2, skip 2, 4 tr in next 4 sts, ch 8, skip 7, 3 dc in next 3 sts, ch 8, skip 7, 4 tr in last 4 ch.

tr in last 4 ch.
2d row.—Ch 11, 4 tr in 1st 4 ch made, putting
the 1st tr in tr of last row and 3 tr in ch always,
ch 2, 4 tr, 4 tr in ch, ch 6, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 6, 4 tr in
ch 8, ch 2, skip 3 tr, 4 tr under ch 2, ch 2, 4 tr
under ch 5 at end.
3d row.—Ch 5, 4 tr under ch 1, ch 2, 4 tr under
ch 2, ch 2, 4 tr in ch 6, ch 4, 1 d tr (thread over
twice,) in center of 3 dc of last row, ch 4, 4 tr on
ch 6, ch 4, 1 d tr under ch 2, ch 4, 4 tr in ch 11 at
end.

Please mention Comfort when you write.

2 ch, ch 4, 4 on 6 ch of last row, ch 4, 1 d tr in center of 3 dc of last row, ch 4, 4 tr on 6 ch.

8th row.—Ch 5, 4 tr on 4 ch, ch 2, 4 tr on next 4 ch, ch 6, 6 dc, (1 on ch 4, 1 in center of d tr, 1 on next ch 4), ch 6, 4 tr under next 2 ch, ch 2, 4 tr under next 2 ch, ch 2, 4 tr under next 2 ch, ch 2, 4 tr under ch 2, 6th 7, 5 dc, (tr in ch 6, 3 in 3 dc of last row, 1 in next ch 6,) ch 8, 4 tr under ch 2, this completes 1 scallop, then ch 11 and repeat from 2d row.

When I make it I always put the tr in ch instead of under, it looks much nicer. You can crochet a scallop around bottom by putting thread in ch 11 and 1 tr, 1 picot, and so on till you have 5 tr and 4 picots, then fasten down in center between 11 chs.

Picot means, 1 tr, make 4 ch, fasten with slip st in tr when ch was started.

Yes, I know that there are ever so many more

Yes, I know that there are ever so many more Bees who wanted to speak, but our time is up, and we must close our social session. Next month the knitters shall have their turn; now don't grumble, you Bees who love to crochet, for each one must have a fair chance, and that I do not think the knitting Bees have had as yet.

yet.
Good-bye! wrap up warmly, for this January
wind is cold and piercing. Don't forget to
bring the edging samples.
Address letters for this column to
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Dear Readers:—while shifting from place to place through the West seeking employment, I made the acquaintance of an agent who claimed to be making \$3000 per year plating with gold, silver or nickel on jewelry, watches and tableware. He very kindly gave me the address of H. F. Delno & Co. of Columbus, Ohio. I since bought a plating outfit from them for \$5 and from the beginning, I have made from \$4 to \$10 per day. Why can't any one do the same?

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BOLD FACE AND FIRM STEP.

BOLD FACE AND FIRM STEP.

Whitney, S. C. July 23, 1891.

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I. L. MCELRATH.

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My Dear young friends:
I believe that I wished you all a Happy New Year last time, but never mind, I will do so again, now that 1892 is really with us. So once more, my girls and boys, a Happy New Year to you all! Here we have three hundred and sixty-five new days before us, each one to be a little different from any which have gone before; days in which to be good or bad, happy or sad, very much as we choose to make our lives. And each one of these days will find us just a bit better, or worse, than the previous one, for we never stand still. Remember that, boys and girls, and try to grow the right way.
I do not want the real little folks to feel that they are crowded out at all by the older ones, for there is room for all. So we will hear from some of them first this time.

Dear Auntie:—I am a little girl 6 years old and

Brst this time.

Dear Auntie:—I am a little girl 6 years old and live on a pleasant farm. I cannot go to school, for our school is 2 miles from where we live, but mamma teaches me at home. I like to study and learn. I have a little 2 year old sister named Ivie. I have a lee shepard dog named Ring. When the pigs get into mischief, he will take them by the ears and drive them away. If some of the little cousins will write to me and send me some Sunday-school papers, or nice cards for my scrap book, I will send them some nice patterns of toy animals.

VIOLA W. WILLIAMS, Reedtown, Ohio.

Lam glad that you like to study, Viola, and that

I am glad that you like to study, Viola, and that you have such a kind mama to teach you. Learn all you can, and some day write me another letter.

You can, and some day write me another letter.

Dear Auntie:—May I be your little niece too. My grandma takes Comport, and as she is too old to join the cousins, she said I may do so if you will allow. I am 9 years old. My home is near Jacksonville, Florida, on the high banks of the St. Johns river. It is an orange grove in an oak grove. The long gray moss hangs from the oak trees, and is beautiful as it hangs in the soft summer light. I will tell you more sometime about my Florida home and my mama and little sisters. My dear papa is dead.

Your loving little niece.

St. Nicholas, Fla.

Tell your grandma, Ethel, that she can never get

St. Nicholas, Fla.

Tell your grandma, Ethel, that she can never get too old to join the cousins, if she should live to be as ald as Methuselah. She may even come into the Young Folk's Corner, if her heart is as fresh and young as many old ladies whom I have known; and there is always "room for one more" in the Chat Corner.



COASTING.

A shove, a shout, and down we go, O'er a path of beaten snow. What care we for noses nipped, Sleds upset and flounces ripped. Surely naught could come amiss When we're having fun like this. Then they struck a buried stump,
Plump,
Bump,
Thumpity-thump!
They all went tumbling in a lump.
E. L. SYLVESTER.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I live just in sight of old Mansfield Mountain. Four years ago there came a great land-slide, uprooting trees, and sending great rocks down; it made a road over 20 feet wide down the side of the mountain. People come from all parts of the State to see this slide. I am a little girl just 8 years old. My papa is very poor, and I have very few things. It takes all papa can earn to buy bread for us five children. Will some of the cousins send me scraps for my crazy quilts?

Your loving niece,

EMMA JOCK,
Pleasant Valley, Vt.

Now for my older boys and girls, who have been waiting for their turn to come.

waiting for their turn to come.

Dear Aunt and Cousins:—I am a girl 13 years old.

My father is station master here, and is kept quite
busy. Gravenhurst is a town of about 2000 population, and is situated between two lakes, Gull and
Muskoka. Muskoka Lake is quite beautiful, and
many tourists go there to camp out. I will be
pleased to correspond with cousins of my own age.

DAISY TORREY, Gravenhurst, Muskoka, Ont.

pleased to correspond with cousins of my own age.

DAISY TORREY, Gravenhurst, Muskoka, Ont.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—As you have requested some of the older boys and girls to write, I take the opportunity of joining your merry band. I live in the extreme southwestern part of the "Old Dominion." The Cumberland Mountains, which form the boundary between this State and Kentucky, are lofty and rugged, though clothed with verdure to the summit. The scenery among them is grand and imposing. From the top of these mountains, four other ranges can be seen stretching far away to the south, until they are lost to view in the calm, blue atmosphere. One is a beautiful country, especially at this season of the year. I can imagine nothing more pleasing to the eye than beautiful landscapes, or lofty mountain ranges. I like the many interesting letters in Compost best of all, and am sure that good letters improve both writer and reader. I would be pleased to correspond with any or all of the cousins.

Your nephew, J. F. Woodward, Jonesville, Va. It is interesting to hear about these many beautiful places, and I am glad to see that each one thinks his or her home is situated in one of the finest parts of the country. It is a good sign when young people like their home, for they will not be in such a hurry locave it and go out into the world.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Don't you hear me! not a single

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Don't you hear me knocking? Please do let me come in. Oh, dear me! not a single soul do I know, who will introduce me? Must I do it myself? Well then, I'm a dark haired, dark eyed, 15 year old Hoosier school-girl, and I am "dreadful" gial thit you can find a space in your paper for the toung mas well as the older nephews and nieces. I think Win'er Houe made a good suggestion when she

spoke of forming a society of the younger cousins to help the "Shut Ins." I, for one, heartily second the motion, for there are two living near my own home. One, a poor needy girl, has not moved the lower portion of her body for about 8 years, and no one but herself and God knows what she has suffered. Heaven will indeed be welcome for such as she, who have waited so long and patiently for it. The other is a little girl of about my own age, who had her limbs amputated about two years ago. I would like to correspond with some of the cousins of my own age or older, especially those from the Southern States. Your nice, MAUDE WELLS, Kit, Jay Co., Indians.

It really seems as if my young folks ought to have

Kit, Jay Co., Indiana.

It really seems as if my young folks ought to have some kind of a society of their own. The question is, shall it be a literary club, something like the Essay Club, or will you have a band of workers to help the poor and suffering? Perhaps we can combine the two. I shall think about it, and when I find a real good plan, will submit it for your approval. Meanwhile, I am "open to suggestions," as they say.

while, I am "open to suggestions," as they say.

Dear Auntie:—I am 13 years old, and live in S. W. Texas. Sister Lula sent some Indian curiosities to S. H. Witherspoon, Pulpit Harbor, Maine, and in return he sent her some pebbles and a star-fish from the coast of Maine. The star-fish is a curiosity to us and every one who comes here. They say they never saw such a thing before, and want to know where its head is. I live in the old rough, brushy, thorny Indian country. They lived here 10 years ago, and did so much mischief in burning and killing and stealing that they were finally run or killed out. Now I will tell you about myself. I have a pet cow, which a man gave me when she was one day old, and I raised her myself. I have pets of all kinds, among them 3 beautiful squirrels. We call one Sauce-box. We live in the country, and mamma teaches us at home, as it is 9 miles to the Carrizo school. With many regards to you and the cousins.

ELLEN BOLYA, Carrizo Springs, Dennett Co., Tex. Don't you have any star-fishes on the Texas coast.

home, as it is 9 miles to the Carrizo school. With many regards to you and the cousins.

ELLEN BOLYA, Carrizo Springs, Dennett Co., Tex. Don't you have any star-fishes on the Texas coast, Ellen? We have a great many in Maine, and the curious sea-urchins too, with their sharp thorny covering. But we do not find here such interesting tossils and Indian relies as you have in Texas. We have some tribes of Indians in this State, but they are very peaceful and industrious people, never making any trouble. In the summer they go to the seaside resorts and camp, selling baskets and telling fortunes; and we cannot find anywhere else such beautiful baskets as they make, in all colors, and woven in with the delicious "sweet-grass."

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have been reading Tennyson's poems, and will give a sketch of my favorite author. Alfred Tennyson, a living poet of England, was born at Somersby, Lincolnshire, in 1810. He has published two volumes of miscellaneous poetry; also "The Princess," a narrative in blank verse; a volume called "In Memoriam;" "Maud," in which an unappy love story is told in a broken and fragmentary way; and "Idyls of the King," comprising four poems founded on the legends of King Arthur. He is a man of rare and fine genius, whose poetry is addressed to refined and cultivated minds. He is a poet of poets, is more valued by women than by men, by young men than by old. I suppose that you would like to know where I ive. Well, I live in "Good old Maine." I am lis and am a little over 5 feet tall, and weigh 120 lbs. Who of the cousins would like to correspond with me? I am going to school now and have to study hard for I am in the highest class.

East Harpswell, Cumberland Co., Me.

So you are learning to like Tennyson, Marion. He is a favorite poet of mine, and you will appreciate him more and more as you grow older.

"I am a boy of 12 years, living in southwest Va, among the broken hills. I have been going to school, but it is out now, and I have some spare time to gather fossils and Indian relies whi

How many of my young friends are interested in collecting. It is a very fascinating occupation, I know by my own experience.
Good-bye to all for this month.
AUNT MINERVA, (Care of COMPORT.)

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DEAR COUSINS:
Did any of the housekeepers, waking upon New Year's morning, think with a weary sigh, "Another year has begun, three hundred and sixty-five days in which meals must be cooked, floors swept, dishes washed, and all the endless routine of housework gone through"? Did you quote to yourself, in a discouraged tone, "Man's work is from sun to sun, But a woman's work is never done." Cheer up, cousins! You remember there was once a clock which tried to reckon how many times it would have to tick in the course of a year, and was so overwhelmed by the thought that it stopped entirely, until reminded by the wise cricket on the hearth that it only needed to think of one tick at a time. So with your work; only one day at a time, and soon they will be all past.

Let me see what we have for receipts that will help you out. I think I will put them in "hit or miss" this time, just as they come out of the copy drawer, and see what sort of a collection we shall find.

DOLLY VARDEN CAKE.

lection we shall find.

DOLLY VARDEN CAKE.

Two cups of sugar, 2-3 cup of butter, 1 cup of sweet milk, 3 of flour, 3 eggs, 1 teaspoonful of baking powder and 1 spoonful of lemon extract. Stir the ingredients thoroughly together and bake 1-2 the mixture in 2 layers, to the remainder add 1 teaspoonful of molasses, 1 cup of raisins, seeded and chopped, 1-2 cup of English currants, washed and dried, and a piece of citron the size of an egg, chopped fine. Mix thoroughly and bake in 2 layers, which alternate with the other 2 layers with frosting between; also spices may be added to the dark part.

one cupful of butter, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup molasses, 4 tablespoonfuls of water and 2 teaspoonfuls of soda. Spice to taste. Will some of the cousins please send me a receipt through Comport for crullers? L. C.

SPICE CAKE.

LIGHT PART.—One and 1-2 cups sugar, 1-2 cup sour cream, 1-2 cup thick milk, 1-2 teaspoonful cream tartar, whites of 3 eggs, lard size of a small egg, lemon or vanilla flavoring.

DARK PART.—One and 1-2 cups sugar, 1-2 cup sour cream, 1-2 cup of thick milk, yolks of 3 eggs, lard size of a small egg, 1-2 teaspoon soda, 1 teaspoonful cloves, and 1 of cinnamon, also a little nutmeg if preferred. Bake in deep cake pan, alternating light and dark part so to make it marbled.

pan, alternating light and dark part so to make it marbled.

THE QUEEN OF PUDDINGS.

One and 1-2 cups white sugar, 2 cups fine dry bread-crumbs, 4 eggs, 1 tablespoonful of butter, vanilla, rosewater, or lemon flavoring, 1 quart fresh, rich milk, and 1-2 cup of jelly or jam. Rub the butter into a cup of sugar, beat the yolks of the eggs very light and stir these together to a cream. The bread-crumbs, soaked in milk, come next, then the seasoning. Bake this in a buttered pudding-dish—a large one and but 2-3 full—until the custard is "set." Draw to the mouth of the oven, spread over with jam or other nice fruit-conserve. Cover this with a meringue made of the whipped whites of the eggs and 1-2 a cup of sugar. Shut the oven and bake until the meringue begins to color. Eat cold, with cream. You may, in strawberry season, substitute the fresh fruit for preserves. It is then truly delightful.

Miss L. G. GRAMM, Cordelia, Penn.

BREAKFAST ROLLS.

Two cups of flour, 1 cup of sweet milk, 1 cup water, 1-2 teaspoon salt; bake 25 minutes in a hot oven. Rosa M. Burch, No. Pomfret, Vt.

REMEDY FOR A SPRAIN.

The white of 1 egg thickened with flour stiff enough for bread, then thin down with turpentine and add 1 teaspoon of salt; thin it so that it will spread, and make just enough for one plaster. Make fresh every time; 3 fresh plasters generally make a cure.

EOR CHAPPED HANDS OR LIPS.

FOR CHAPPED HANDS OR LIPS.

Take equal parts of mutton tallow and gum camphor and melt up together, apply as often as desired.

M. V. S.

SCOTCH POTATO SCONES.

Pare and wash 8 good sized potatoes, boil until done. Mash fine and add a pinch of salt, and mix enough flour to make a stiff dough; roll thin and cut in strips and bake on a large griddle without grease. These are very nice eaten warm.

STEAMED PIE.

Make enough pie crust to line a large soup plate; pare and slice large pie apples enough to heap up, sprinkle over this 1-2 a cup of sugar, a little cinnamon, and a little flour; put on upper crust and steam 3-4 of an hour.

R. M. M. R. M. M.

R. M. M.

POTATO PANCAKES.

Take 6 medium sized raw potatoes, pare and grate them, add 3 eggs, and 1-2 teaspoonful of salt, mix slightly and fry in small cake like batter cakes; they are to be served immediately.

POT ROAST Take a good rump of beef, say 5 pounds; put in an iron pot, pour over 1 cup of vinegar and 1 of water, season with 1 onion, pepper and salt to taste. Cover with close lid and let steam until it boils dry. Turn the meat and let roast till brown, then add 1 pint of hot water, mix 1 tablespoon of flour, small lump of butter, stir into the water to form the gravy. This will take about 2 hours in all to cook. into the water to form the game, take about 2 hours in all to cook.

Mrs. Schulze.

Mrs. Schulze.

"I saw a request in your column for a receipt to make corned beef, have not seen any reply, so I will send one, this will keep all winter. Take 7 pounds sugar (light brown), 5 pounds salt, 5 oz. saltpetre; mash the saltpetre as fine as possible before mixing, then mix thoroughly, cut meat to pack in large jars, take each piece separately, soak in this mixture, pack closely in jars, turn plate or wooden cover over it, put on weight. This will be enough brine for 200 pounds of beef, do not put only what brine sticks to the meat. If the brine don't cover the meat in 3 days put on heavier weight.

SPONGE CAKE.

sponge cake.
Four eggs, beaten very light, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup flour, I teaspoon baking powder.

JELLY CARE.

One cup sugar, 1-2 cup butter, 3 eggs, 4 table-spoonfuls of water, 11-2 cups flour, 2 teaspoonfuls of baking powder.

CAKE WITHOUT EGGS.
One heaping cup sugar, 1 cup strong coffee, 1

scant 1-2 cup butter, 3 not very full cups of flour, 2 heaping teaspoons baking powder rubbed in the flour.

nour, 2 heaping teaspoons baking powder rubbed in the flour.

A NICE DISH FOR BREAKFAST.

Take cold boiled potatoes, peel, slice in a dish, have the frying pan warm, (not hot) put in a small lump of butter, let it melt without browning, then put in potatoes, chopping occasionally with the knife, instead of stirring them, salt and pepper, then pour in a little sweet milk or cream, a very little, let them boil up until the milk is thick, but not dry, too much cooking spoils them; serve immediately.

BAKED GRAHAM PUDDING.

Take a pudding pan 3 or 4 inches deep, put in a layer of fruit of any kind, then sprinkle with sugar according to the fruit used for the pudding, as sour fruit requires more sugar than other fruit does (cranberries make an excellent pudding), then sprinkle Graham flour enough to cover the fruit and sugar, (just enough to hide them from view) then another layer of fruit, then sugar, then flour, and then pour on enough water to cover, don't stir until it begins to bake, then stir occasionally; watch closely to keep from scorching.

WIDOW.

MACARONI AND CHEESE.

MACARONI AND CHEESE.

Break the macoroni in pieces about 2 inches long and boil in clear water till done; have ready some grated cheese, put both into a frying pan with a small piece of butter, a little salt and pepper, and cook about 10 minutes, careful not to burn it, no water must be put in after the cheese is added.

NEVADA.

Take cold meat pieces left over, chop, salt and pepper to taste, cold mashed potatoes, salt and pepper also; take an earthen dish, grease, put in a layer of potatoes, then layer of meat, until the dish is filled: always have potatoes on the top and place a few small lumps of butter on the top; bake till delicate brown.

on the top; bake till delicate prown.

LEMON JELLY CAKE.

One and 1-2 cups of sugar, 1-2 cup butter, beat to a cream, 3 eggs well beaten, 1-2 cup of milk, 2 1-2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder; bake in layers.

JELLY.—One cup sugar, 1 egg, juice and grated rind of 1 lemon, 1-2 cup cold water, 1 tablespoonful corn starch. Place the dish in boiling water until it thickens, spread between the layers: ice the top.

Mrs. D. P.

boiling water until it thickens, spread between the layers; ice the top.

SPONGE CAKE.

Beat 2 eggs in a coffee cup until light, and then fill the cup with sweet cream; add 1 cup of sugar, 1-2 teaspoon of soda, 1 of cream of tartar, and 1 1-2 cups of flour.

CORN GEMS.

One scant pint of meal, 2 tablespoonfuls of sugar, a teaspoon of salt, and a generous pint of boiling milk; stir thoroughly and let stand until cool, then stir in 3 beaten eggs and bake in buttered pans.

ISABELLA LONG.

MEAT JELLY.

A knuckle of veal, 1 lb. beefsteak from the round, 3 pints water. cold, boil, after skimming, 5 or 6 hours, then take out the meat, and separate it from the bones and gristle; cut it into small pieces with knife and fork, and return it to the liquor; season with salt and pepper (adding celery salt if agreeable), heat once more and pour into mould, cat cold.

QUAKER CITY COUSIN.

QUAKER CITY COUSIN.

JOHNNY CAKE.

Two cups sour milk, 2 cups corn meal, 1 cup flour, 1 egg, 2 tablespoons sugar, a pinch of salt, 2 tablespoons melted lard, 2 teaspoons soda.

2 tablespoons melted lard, 2 teaspoons soda.

OATMEAL COOKIES.

Three cups oatmeal, sifted, 3 cups flour, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup lard, 1 cup hot water, 1 teaspoon soda; roll thin and bake quick. Sift the flour, mix flour and oatmeal together, put in the lard, work that all together, then put in sugar and stir; put the soda in the water and turn into the mixture.

GINGER SNAPS.
Two cups molasses, 1-2 cup butter, 1 tablespoon ginger, 1 tablespoon soda, flour enough
to roll out; bake quick.
AMY D. LAW, Box 40, Richmond St., Que.

AMY D. LAW, Box 40, Richmond St., Que. GINGER CAKES.

Put into a teacup 1 teaspoonful soda, 2 table-spoonfuls cold water, 3 tablespoonfuls melted lard, salt and ginger to taste, fill the cup with good N. O. molasses. Mix very stiff, roll thin, cut round and bake in a quick oven. Measure again for a large baking.

MOONSHINE.

Break 1 egg into flour, mix as much as you can with nothing else, divide into 12 pieces, roll as thin as paper, have a skillet of boiling lard, lay one in, with a spoon dip the boiling lard and pour on top. Pile on a plate, with powdered sugar and cinnamon dusted on each.

dered sugar and cinnamon dusted on each.

VINEGAR PIE.

Line a pie pan with rich paste, spread butter over it, sprinkle a large handful of sugar over that, then a tablespoonful of flour, then pinch off bits of paste and drop over it, then more butter, etc., fill with weak vinegar, grate nutmeg over and bake. Delicious.

M. L. H.

POTATO SALAD.

Slice 8 cold boiled potatoes into a tray and add one large onion to the 8 potatoes. Chop fine and add 4 hard boiled eggs. Make a dressing of 5 tablespoonfuls of vinegar to 3 tablespoonfuls of vinegar to 3 tablespoonfuls of oil, 1-4 spoonful of pepper and 1 of salt; pour this on the vegetables and serve with lettuce.

Cut in dice shapes, cold beets and potatoes, and place on lettuce leaves in your dish, over this pour 3 tablespoonfuls of oil and dressing made of French mustard, salt, pepper and vinegar to make a paste, lay this on top of all and serve.

Many thanks to all who have kindly contributed receipts.

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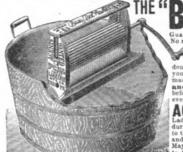
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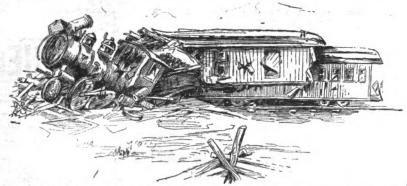
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THE ENGINEER'S STORY.

THE ENGINEER'S STORY.

The engine had been cleaned, its fires were alight and burning well, its steam was up and old Joe Colby, the engineer, sat upon a near-by bench watching with admiration the great machine he was so proud of, and waiting for the time when he would back it out, and with the many elegant cars of the fast express behind begin his long run.

"Yes," he said, "I am proud of her. Who wouldn't be? She is a darling. I have had a good many machines to run in my day, some were terrors and some were elegant; but I have never had so fine a one as this. I hope she will last my time out. I am getting too old to get acquainted easy with new ones. I had the Andrew Dickson once. She was fine! You have heard of the Dickson? I ran her miles and miles, thousands of 'em without a breakdown. I hated to give her up; but she got too slow for the fast service. She's over there in the yard switching somewhere.

"Then they gave up naming the machines and the top to mumbering them got so means."

the yard switching somewhere.

"Then they gave up naming the machines and took to numbering them—got so many I suppose they couldn't get names enough to go round. It was hard at first to get used to that; but we did get used to it—had to, and I am just as fond of old 509 here, as if she was named Ghadys Trevor or some other high-flyin'name like that.

"We run faster than we used to: but it is

like that.

"We run faster than we used to; but it is safer than ever, now. You see, they don't want accidents—no one does. Danger? Of course, there's danger; but there excitement, and life, and I love the whole business. There's no going to sleep and rusting out in it, I tell you. I am an old man, and I have been very lucky. The Super. says I am careful and he trusts me; but I say I have had good luck. I have been in some accidents too.

The Super. says I am careful and he trusts me; but I say I have had good luck. I have been in some accidents too.

"The worst of it is," he went on reflectively, after he had stopped a minute to relight his pipe which had gone out as he had talked, "the worst of it is that when an accident does happen some good fellow's shoes are empty. That's the way of the world I suppose—some good fellow goes down and another goes up. That's the way I got my first engine and my wife. I've been good to 'em—my engines and my wife, too. I wanted my engine bad enough, but I didn't want to get it that way.

"It was way back, a good many years ago. I was a fireman then, I had been firing for four or five years. I was a young chap then and I was very much in love with Sue Thomas. She's my wife, you know. I am an old chap now; but I am just as much in love—but that's got nothing to do with my story. Fireman's pay was pretty poor—there isn't much money in the business—not that I am complaining but there isn't much money in it at the best; but Sue and I had planned and we were to be married when I should get an engine. But promotion, was slow and it was pretty weary waiting. We were a single track road—the old D. & P. didn't have then the five double track we have now. No roads did. But the track was pretty straight and we made our time generally.



JUMP, SAYS TOM.

"I was firing for Tom Long. Tom was as good a man as ever touched a throttle; but he was too brave—kind o' reckless like. We had a good run, too—one of the best on the road. They liked Tom. We had a fast train, fast for those days—from New York to Scranton one day and back the next, and Tom was bound to make his time whatever else he did. Well, on this day we had made good time until we got near the mountains. Up there around Pocous mountains, you know, the track climbs straight up and the grade is pretty steep, the heaviest on the road. Well, when we got near the mountain that day a box had to get hot on one of the coaches and that delayed us some minutes, it didn't seem many, but it was long enough to cost us a lot. Then we started and we went up that grade as I never had before minutes, it didn't seem many, but it was long enough to cost us a lot. Then we started and we went up that grade as I never had before and never have since. Tom was determined to make up the lost time, you see. And I worked on the fire till everything was boiling. It was up-hill and of course we went slowly after all; but the grade was just as steep down as it was up, and that was the trouble. We went on all right until we got to the short curve about a mile from the summit. Then we heard the whistle of another train and in a minute we saw the other engine just a few rods away. Tom whistled for brakes, we had no air in those days, and shut the throttle. On that grade and with our speed we soon stopped; but the other train came thundering down on us.

"Jump! says Tom, and for the only time in my life I quit a machine in trouble. I thought Tom would follow me; but—ah, Tom was a good man—he tried to reverse her and get her going down. We found his hand on the reversing bar clinched tight afterward. Down came the other train and in a minute there was a smash and a mighty war of escaping steam. It was a bad wreck. Poor Tom didn't suffer long, and I got my promotion.

"Yes," he repeated after a minute as he prepared to step into his cab, "that's the worst of it. It is pretty hard that a fellow gets his chance because another fellow's unlucky."

THOUGHTS BY COUSIN HEBE.

One of the most extraordinary catastrophes that have befallen vessels of the United States navy, destroyed the sloop-of-war Oneida in 1869. She was bound homeward, with a jolly ship's company, eager to see wives and sweethearts and native land once more, when, not far out of port, she was struck by the British steamer Bombay, coming in. The stern of the Bombay cut off the stern of the Oneida. The ship was sinking rapidly, and guns of distress were immediately fired, but the Bombay steamed on her way and left the vessel to her doom. She went down, and all but one or two of her crew were drowned. The captain of the Bombay gave no other reason for his conduct than that he had Lady Eyre, the wife of a distinguished British satrap, on board, and did not wish to disturb her nerves with seenes of shipwreck. He was mobbed when he reached Yokohama, dismissed from the service, socially tabooed from that time on, and died in disgrace a year or two later. Seldom indeed has snobbery been carried to a greater extreme and the fate that befel a man who was destined to high rank in the finest navy in the world was richly deserved. It ought to be a lesson to every one that birth and station are mere accidents and only the caprice of fortune.

MORAL.—True nobility is independent of material surroundings.

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MORAL.—True nobility is independent of material surroundings.

Here is an instance of the difference between the publicly and privately expressed opinions of writers, says a correspondent. Some months ago a certain young newspaper woman in a Western city went to interview a prominent woman. The report of the interview appropriate in the paper, contained a passage something like this: "Women instinctively love Mrs. Blank. Her sweet graciousness of manner, her ready sympathy, her good-fellowship draw them to her. She is, above all things, sympathetic and hospitable. In her presence the writer realized how potent is the charm she exercises." This effusion was accompanied by a note to the editor. It read: "I shall not be able to write another line this week, I fear I caught a fatal cold on Mrs. Blank's front door-step. The old cat wouldn't let me in."

MORAL—Don't pretend an acquaintance with great people which is not genuine. A barn fowl and a peacock may go together but it is always embarrassing for the fowl.

A father, writing to the New York "Ledger," says:

cock may go together but it is always embarrassing for the fowl.

A father, writing to the New York "Ledger," says: "In a recent number of the 'Ledger,' you say: 'It is, in fact, a vulgar error to suppose that a parent's authority over a female child ceases at the age of eighteen. That is an utter delusion.' Yes. But I should like to know when it begins. Having seven daughters, varying in age from two to twenty, I have some little interest in the question. My own contribution to its solution is my statement that—beginning with the youngest—my first regularly wakes me at six with screeching; my second paints all my photographs in her earliest manner; my third utterly declines to learn the multiplication table; my fourth refuses to dine in the nursery and howls on the stairs until called down to the parlor; my fifth objects to go to church, because the preacher is so ugly; my sixth made me stay for her at a party till three this morning; and my seventh has announced that I may tyrranize over her young affections for another long and oruel year, but that on the day she is twenty-one, she allies herself in marriage with her cousin Peter, whom I hate, for his own sake and his family's. If, therefore, you can give me any light which will give me any authority over one or all of these young ladies, I shall remain uncommonly obliged."

Morat.—It is better to rule by love than fear. The natural affection that exists between a father and daughter is strong vetfrail. A thoughtful consideration for the tastes and inclinations of a young lady is the daughter's right. If parental authority is not reinforced by filial affection the result is very much as it is in this case.

Manuals of correspondence or "complete letter-writers" are dangerous things to depend upon.

Manuals of correspondence or "complete letter-writers" are dangerous things to depend upon. Not many years ago, a young man, who wished to win the hand of a young lady, pondered long over the proper and most effective way of addressing her. At last he found, in a manual of somewhat wide circulation, a form for a letter which pleased him much. The letter bore the title: "From a young gentleman to a young lady, making an ardent but dignified offer of marriage." He copied out the letter, signed it with his name, and sent it to the lady. After some days of anxious waiting, he received a letter. He tore open the envelope and read: "Turn over the leaf in your manual; you will find my answer at the top of the opposite page." He seized his manual, and in the place indicated found brief and sharply formal letter, entitled: "From a young lady to a gentleman, peremptorily refusing an offer of marriage." She was the possessor of a copy of the same manual.

MORAL.—Don't pretend to be what you are not even in the matter of correspondence. Remember the fable of the jackdaw in peaceck's feathers.



THE WRONG DOOR.

Perhaps it isn't over wise
For one like me to criticize
The many very foolish things that other
people do;
But if they'd only exercise
Their brains a bit—and use their eyes—
A deal of trouble might be saved and lots
of worry too.

E. L. S.

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Indigestion! Miserable! Take BEECHAM's PILLS.

HAVING FUN.

"Say Jim, wouldn't you like to take a duck shooting next week?"

This remark was made by Thomas Harold, who was a great sportsman.

"Well, Tom-"

"Now don't you begin to make excuses; I know you too well for that."
"Well, I suppose that you are going down to the creek for that, won't you?"

"Yes, there is where I intend to go; that is, if I can get you to go with me. Are you

going?"
"I'll let you know to-night, Tom."
"Very well, what time must I come?"
"About eight."
"Settled! I will be here sure."
Jim Weatherns was sitting by the fire that night, when Tom knocked at the door.
"Come in," said Jim.
Lust at that moment the old clock struck.

Just at that moment the old clock struck

Just at that moment the old clock struck eight.

"You're just in time."

"Oh, well I am always in time for duck shooting. Now, Jim, what do you say about going?"

"I say, 'not go."

"Just like you," said Tom, in anger.

"Well, if you are going to get in your splirts, guess I may as well go."

"Of course! You will never have any fun sitting in the house. So come and we will have some fun."

Jim Weatherns was silent a few moments, and then said:

"Look here, Tom, what will we need for the trip?" "Never mind about that; all you have got to bring is your gun and cartridges."

The day appointed was around in due

Jim is waiting for Tom to come, when he discovers that he has but twenty-five cartridges besides his load.

"I will not go. Why didn't I get some more when I was in town yesterday?"

"Jim! Jim!" called a voice from outside.
Jim goes to the door and looks out to find that it was Tom

Jim goes to the door and looks out to find that it was Tom.

"Come ahead!" said Tom.

"I am not going, Tom."

"Now what new idea has struck you, that you are not going?"

"I haven't any cartridges."

"No cartridges! Why in the world didn't you get some, Jim?"

"I forgot."

"Well, don't mind that and come on, that will be enough; be in a hurry now, for we are late."

"Wait a minute."

Tom jumps out and goes to help Jim get

"Wait a minute."

Tom jumps out and goes to help Jim get ready, which they soon did and were flying down the main road.

"When will we get there?" asked Jim.

"About three or four hours."

"Gosh! that long?"

"That is not very long."

"Why man, it is now ten."

"Bolly! that late?"

"Why certainly Do you doubt me?" as

"Why, certainly. Do you doubt me?" as Jim said this he pulled forth his watch. "Look for yourself." "Oh, I believe you, Jim." "Yery well."

They passed the rest of the way in talking and joking.
"Now, Jim, be looking around for a good

place to camp out in."
"How long are you going to stay, Tom?"
"Until tomorrow at about twelve."

"Look over yonder at that hill, won't that be a good place to camp?"
"Where?" queried Tom.

"Where?" queried fom.
"Don't you see over yonder?"
"Oh, yes! Good for you, Jim."
"How so?"

"I mean that you are good on selecting a

"I mean that you are good on selecting a camp."

"Oh yes, I see."

"We will go there at once."

Fifteen minutes drive brought them to it.

"Now Jim, while I unload you bring some wood and make a fire to cook dinner with.

"Who is going to do the cooking, Tom?"

"I guess I will have to do that."

"Very well," said Jim, "I am satisfied."

Soon dinner was over and they were discussing which would be the best place to go for game.

go for game.

"I say over yonder, Jim."

"Well, but I don't think that will be a good place."

"Why not?"

"Why not?"
"There are no ducks over there."
"No ducks! what is the matter with you?"
"Nothing, why?"
"Come on then and we will go over there
and see."

Very soon they were over there to find more game than they expected.

Bang! bang! bang! went both of them at the same time.

Very soon they each had a bag full and making for camp well-pleased with their lack.

luck.
"Jim, I tell you what will be the best."
"What?"

"Put what we have down here and keep it going until we get enough to go home with and go tonight."
"We will do that, certain."
At six o'clock Tom went for the horse

while Jim staid and kept watch over their

good luck.

Half an hour later they were on their way home with thirty-five ducks altogether.
"How are we going to divide them, Tom?"
"Well, you take six and I will take the same and sell the others and divide what they being."

same and sell the others and divide what they bring."
"Very well; but where are we going to dispose of them?"
"Anywhere, everybody wants some."
"We will get rid of them before we get home in the morning, won't we?"
"Hello! you have made me think, we will take them to market early in the morning."
So they did, and got full value for them and went home with full pockets at twelve the next day.

the next day. I don't suppose that Jim Weatherns ever afterwards grumbled on going duck shooting, do you?

JOHN H. PURVIS. CHARLES DICKEN'S WORKS.

DAVID COPPERFIELD.

From the shadowy realms of the past, redo-lent with the must of years, covered with the dust and cobwebs of another literary age, yet bringing to us the ancient castles and blos-soming hedges of "Merry England," comes "David Copperfield," the masterpiece of Dick-ens, the greatest of word-painters.

ens, the greatest of word-painters.

In writing a critical essay on this book, I shall not try to give a synopsis of a story which is doubtless familiar to every person of ordinary education, but shall try to convey to my readers the impression made upon my mind by the most prominent characters therein mentioned. Like all other productions it contains imperfections, which, however, are more than balanced by its many good points. It appeals to the higher and nobler instincts of humanity. From long association I have grown to consider David Copperfield and the people with whom he came in contact as personal acquaintances, and must be excused if I present them as such.

whom he came in contact as personal acquaintances, and must be excused if I present them as such.

In the treatment which the little David Copperfield received at the hands of the cruel Murdstone, is held forth a most solemn warning to widows or widowers with children, in marrying, if marry they must, to be very careful in selecting a stepparent for these children. What heart has not been touched by the childish recital by little David Copperfield of the wrongs inflicted by Murdstone upon his fond, foolish mother and himself? Mrs. Copperfield, or properly expressed, Mrs. Murdstone, is, like all Dickens mothers, an irresolute, warmhearted simpleton, who by her foolish marriage with an unprincipled man brought untold sorrow upon herself and son. What can be more touching than David's grief when forced to go off to school? Nothing more pitiful than his life after he had entered the "Halls of Learning," and nothing more true and tender than his boyish love and reverence for Steerforth, the reckless, and, in the end, almost worthless boy, who defends him from the cuffs and jeers of his meaner spirited comrades. This friend, whom Copperfield in after years introduced into the cottage of the old fisherman, taking advantage of the confidence reposed in him, induced the simple minded and beautiful Emily to walk with him down the lotus-strewn path of promised pleasure, ending in the goal of degradation from which no woman can ever in this world retrace her footsteps. By this wickedness he bowed the head of the poor old fisherman, and crushed the noble and manly heart of honest Ham. Yet after having his friendship so outraged Copperfield dropped warm tears of love and pity upon the dead face of the man who had been both his friend and enemy in boyhood.

Aunt Betsey Trotwood is an example of that class of people who bearing a rough exterior, possess a heart of gold. Her loving kindness to her helpless nephew, and her womanly care of the man who was sunk in the lowest depths of degradation, show her to be a woman of the nob

of the man who was sunk in the lowest depths of degradation, show her to be a woman of the nobleat type.

And Micawber, poor Micawber "of happy memory!" What a perfect representative he is of that class of rather intellectual but unbalanced and energy-lacking men! Mrs. Micawber is a type of the woman who, having married beneath her station in life, foolishly tries to conceal her retrogression by keeping up a ridiculous harping on the worn-out string of "My family."

The fisherman's family are introduced into the story for the purpose of combatting the then prevalent idea that nobility of character and tenderness and purity of heart existed only among the gentry. When we read of Mr. Dick, with his ideas concerning the great Charles, how naturally our minds turn to those dear but one-sided and single minded friends of our own! Mr. Wickfield, the pitiful wreck of a once powerful man, appeals strongly to our sympathies. Uriah Heap, who though so "very 'umble," dared to aspire to the hand of a queen among women, is a glaring example of a modern rascal covered with the dirt and slime of hypocrisy.

And Peggotty, faithful, loving soul, we must

once powerful man, appeals strongly to our sympathies. Uriah Henp, who though so "very 'umble," dared to aspire to the hand of a queen among women, is a glaring example of a modern rascal covered with the dirt and slime of hypocrisy.

And Peggotty, faithful, loving soul, we must not forget her. With the fidelity and affection of a mother, she clung to young David, and tried in her helpful womanly way to guide his footsteps over the thorny path of life. She, it will be remembered is the heroine of one of the world's most remarkable courtships, her lover's proposal containing only the words, "Barkis is willim." Mrs. Steerforth is no extraordinary character. To the shame of young manhood be it said, a proud mother brokenhearted over the crumbling of the idol she has made of her son, is no novel spectacle. Miss Dartle is an illustration of the woman who in early youth must have had noble aspirations, but soured and imbittered by the accident which deprived her of the small amount of beauty she possessed, goaded by the knowledge that handsome, reckless Steerforth, to whom she had given unasked all the love she had to give, had for her only dislike and contempt, she grew to be an example of the old adage that, "Heaven has no rage like love to hatred turned, Nor Hell a fury like a woman scorned."

There is perhaps no circumstance in the story more frequently illustrated in our daily lives than David Copperfield's love for his child-wife Dora, though represented as beautiful, was a helpless, cliniging, dependent creature, whose only charm must have been her very childishness. It is strange, yet true, that men possessing strength both of mind and body, in the majority of cases, love and marry women who are, in point of intellect, scarcely outside the pale of idiocy. Such marriages can only result in a disappointed husband, and a peevish, pettish wife, who, far from being #helpmate, soon becomes a burden. While I have a rooted dislike to strong-minded, masculins women who desire to "wear the pants," as wives, I am, never

Traddles and numerous other minor characters I pass over for the same reason.

And last and best in this wonderful pageant of humanity, we come to Agnes Wickfield. The pen of man cannot depict a nobler character. Serene and quiet, a guardian angel to her weak and erring father, a kind friend and adviser to Copperfield, whom through all she secretly loved, going forward regardless of self with a tender word of comfort for the afflicted and an answering smile for the happy, she was indeed "A perfect woman nobly planned." She passed from the date of her first meeting with Copperfield to their marriage, through the deep waters of sorrow. She had buried deep within her heart the greatest sorrow of woman, a love unrequited. She had seen her father gradually become a mental wreck in the prime of his manhood. In her early youth the billows of affliction had lashed about her, and the storm winds of despair had beaten upon her helpless head. In the morning of her womanhood she had learned by bitter experience that though love may be true and tender when decked with the roses of joy, yet "The soul of its sweetness is drawn out by tears." But at last, after passing through the valley of trouble, she beheld the rosy dawning of the day of promise upon the green hilltops of coming joy. Her marriage with Copperfield seems to have been one of great happiness to both. There is an indescribable tenderness in the close of his story:

"And now as I close my task, subduing my desire to linger yet, these faces fade away. But one face shining on me like a Heavenly light, by which I see all other objects, is above and beyond them all. And that remains.

I turn my face and see it in its beautiful serenity beside me. My lamp burns low, and I have written far into the night; but the dear presence, without which I were nothing, bears me company.

O, Agnes, so may thy face be with me when I close my life indeed; so may I, when realities are melting from me like the shadows which I now dismiss, still find thee near me, pointing upward!"

The

How the Pig Got Out.

A HIGH BOARD FENCE HAD NO TERRORS FOR HIM FOR HE COULD CLIMB.

G. H. Currier of Abbott has the marvelous pig of pigs! He has been somewhat bothered lately by his pig getting out of its pen and taking a bath in the river. Every time he got out Mr. Currier would board his pen up a little higher, but that did not stop the pig, so Mr. Currier, feeling a little vexed, watched and found out the secret. The boards were nailed on two or three inches apart, and the pig would climb to the top by putting his toes in the cracks, there being a rope suspended over the outside he would catch it in his mouth and lower himself to the ground.

Did anyone ever wonder what becomes of the in circulation? We know they are redeemed at the sub-treasuries, but what is done with them then, or what became of the paper money that was in use several years ago when there was no silver money in circulation with which to make

silver money in circulation with which to make change?
During Grant's administration this scrip and the accumulation of worn out bank bills were gathered together in the Treasury at Washington in one huge, ragged, ill-smelling pile, of which the clerks who counted it were afraid for fear disease lurked in it. This dirty paper had all been redeemed with silver money and represented hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The pile was set on fire and burned in the presence of several officials, and afterward the ashes were taken and mixed with some adhesive substances. From the composition thus made was modeled a statuette a foot high of a broken, flued column, and also a perfect facsimile of the old Liberty bell in Independence Hall, Philadelphia. The bell has the appearance of dark granite and is six inches high, with the date 1776 indented upon one side, the familiar crack on the other.

These mementoes were presented to the late Hon. Charles E. Conant, at that time Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

HAIRPINS.

Proud man will never know what he loses by sot being familiar with that useful article, a hairpin; though it was he who originated that obscure bit of slang, "I'm not that kind of a hairpin!"

The masculine world at large is painfully ignorant of the many uses to which an accomodating hairpin may be put in cases of emergency. They have the mistaken idea that the frivolous sex use the pins exclusively to button their boots and their gloves. That is an idea born of gross ignorance.

born of gross ignorance.

They have never perhaps had the felicity of eating that luscious bivalve yclept the oyster with a hairpin.

In the scribbler's boarding-school days that edible of iniquity, the barmless, silent oyster was forbidden us from some sinister motive unknown to our youthful minds. As strenuously were we determined to have that excluded luxury.

Being human and naturally prone to evil the grand oyster mutiny that broke out in that once peaceful seminary. We recall a secret visit to an obscure tinsmith's shop, our subsequent possession of a tin pall and when that unsuspicious looking pail entered the seminary under a long feminine cloak it was always filled with fresh oysters. Our chums and our chum's chums were silently bidden to the feast by a knowing wink. At every surreptitious oyster banquet a paper of new hairpins with which to harpoon the fruite di mare was opened and passed around in lieu of knives and forks.

That was long, long ago but the flavor of those forbidden oysters is a cherished memory yet. Ambrosia to-day would not be so keenly relished.

And when one inadvertently rends her our ments on an inconvenient occasion what more needed to hold the ragged edges together till proper repairs can be made than an obliging nairpin? Great respect should be shown that universal, feminine utensil.

And poor unfortunate man, we pityingly ask what has he for a substitute for that indispensa-HARE PINZ. ole article?

A Dangerous Position.—Spacer: I want to get ny life insured for \$5,000; I am a newspaper

Agent—What work do you do?

'Ever criticise amateurs?'

"Yep; and give 'em what they deserve."
"Clerk, write Mr. Spacer a policy-extra poli

COMFORT.

It was a glad "good morning" As "Comfort" passed on its way, Rut father could not withstand it, So "Comfort" came to stay.

And it brought with it its sunshine, You would really believe me, I say, Had you seen the morning's glory It spread over us that day.

And it soothed the mind of the father, For after the day's vexing care A smile illumined his face. 'Twas "Comfort" brought it there. And it calmed the worrisome spirit That the anxious mother acquired, For gone is the careworn look. "Twas "Comfort" removed the briers. And the children are carefully scanning Each line that is written to them,

And eagerly, busily planning With "Comfort" in each little den. With "Comfort" in each fittle deniIt was only a glad "good morning"
As "Comfort" passed on its way,
But each of us know a good thing,
And "Comfort" shall surely stay.
INA E. BROWN.

He Wanted Particulars.

They are still indulging in reminiscences of Gen. John Stark. It was on one of the early anniversaries of the battle of Bennington that the old hero happened to be in church when he heard the parson preach a long sermon on that memorable fight and the incidents connected with it, though no mention was made of Stark's gallant service there. Then the parson made a long prayer, in which he gave thanks to the God of battles for the victory which had been won at Bennington. The old general's patience finally became exhausted, and he arose in his pew and exclaimed:

"Mr. Parson, will you kindly mention the fact that Gen. John Stark was there?"—Boston Herald.

Kindness Misapplied.

What's the matter?" asked the kind-hearted old gentleman of the boy who was weeping bit-

terly.
"I g-got two nice clean blocks, an' them fel-"'[g-got two nice clean blocks, an' them fellers took 'em away from me."
"Well! well!" exclaimed the old gentleman.
"Did you want them very bad?"
"Y-yes, sir."
"Hasn't your mother any kindling?"
"N-no, sir, she al-aint."
"Father too poor to buy any?"
"N-no, sir."
"Does he drink?"
"S-some."
"Humph. Very proper pride. I see it all."

"S-some."
"Humph. Very proper pride. I see it all,"
was the kind-hearted comment.
"But you wanted the blocks for kindling,
didn't you?"
"N-no, sir."
"What did you want them for, then?"
"I want 'em t-to hit together and m-make a
dickens of a n-noise with, sir."
The kind-hearted gentleman turned the corner almost at a trot to avoid missing an appointment.—Washington Post.

His Limit.

A disappointed fish peddler was belaboring his slow but patient horse in a street in Georgetown, D. C., the other day, and calling out his wares at intervals, as:
"Herrin', herrin,' fresh herrin'."
A tender-hearted lady, seeing the act of cruelty to the horse, called out sternly from an upper window:
"Have you no mercy?"
"No, mum," was the reply, "nothin' but herrin'."—Forest and Stream.

New Haven's Champion Dog. WHIPPED FOR DESTROYING A DUSTEE HE STEALS A NEW ONE.

Mrs. F. W. Robinson of 571 Chapel Street has a black spaniel that abstracted a feather duster from the sitting-room and took it out in the yard to play with. During a frolic the feathers were all torn out. Mrs. Robinson took the handle and gave the dog a severe whipping. About an hour afterward the dog walked into the yard with a bran new duster, like the one he had destroyed, in his mouth. He walked up to his mistress and meekly deposited the new duster at her feet. The mark on it showed that the dog had stolen it from a neighboring fancy goods store.

Nerve Tonic.

The following good story of Ned Sothern is going the round of the papers. Any one who has ever heard his Lord Chumley will appreciate the words: "A short time ago Mr. Sothern was riding in a New York elevated car and had occasion to administer a cutting rebuke, while at the same time he put into it more humor than is usual with such rebukes. Ah old lady, laden with bundles, stood in the aisle, weary and almost ill with fatigue. Close beside her sat a big brute, spread out comfortably and complacently over the space that two people could easily occupy, and refusing to budge an inch when the lady mildly looked with longing eyes upon the seat. Everybody glared at him, but he took no notice of that; there were muttered words of disapproval, but he paid no attention to those. At last Sothern, with one of those Lord Chumley stares, so full of innocence and simple good nature, leaned over from the strap on which he hung, and in a very audible stage whisper, inquired:

"Excuse me, s-s-sir, but would you kindly t-t-tell me what k-k-kind of nerve tonic you use?"

"Even the roar of laughter which followed in

use?"
"Even the roar of laughter which followed in the car did not bring a wrinkle to the mildly beaming face of Lord Chumley, but it did make the old hog leave his seat and the car."

A Mighty Army.

There is in this country the greatest army in the world—not a standing army, but a constantly moving body of 700,000 men, who march and countermarch day and night, through heat and cold, from year's end to year's end. Each year they have 2,000 killed and 20,000 wounded. One man in 357 lost his life last year, one in every 35 was wounded, and the total loss by the operatives of the army was 5,853 killed and 25,309 wounded. Upon the soldiers of this army 3,000,000 of our people depend for their living. This army and its soldiers are the railroad employees of America.

A Commentary on her Father.

A Williamsport girl, who in the matter of beauty and affectionate exuberance was not to say "fresh as first love and rosy as the dawn," was asked why she did not get married, and this is what she said in reply: "I have considerable money of my own, I have's parrot that can swear, and a monkey that chews tobacco, so that I have no need of a husband."



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For a year's Trial we will Mail Comfort for only 25c. Knowing we have adopted a Name which carries great weight when it is Solid, and believing Comfort is what every one in the world is after, we will send our Crumbs out 12 months for only 25c. without Premiums, 12 Numbers of which will surely give you Solid Comfort for the whole year and we shall endeavor to cater so much to the Comfort of mankind that any one once receiving a Copy will become a life member to our Subscription list. We trust we may hear from all our friends and learn how they each consider the best way for taking Comfort and we hope to furnish them many hints for happiness. There are Thousands of Papers published in the country, but none like "Comfort", and no matter how many Pereodicals you are taking, you will surely want to Take Comfort and also get up Clubs so your griends may take it and you receive some of the Premiums for your trouble. Remember the only way to Take Comfort is To Get Comfort for a whole year.

WHAT IS COMFORT?

What is comfort? To be owner
Of an independence great?
To be wealthy, and a donor
Of your gifts throughout the State?
Is it by luxurious living
To achieve a certain fame,
Or, by charitable giving
To acquire an honored name?
What is comfort? To be able
To call servants at command?
To have horses in your stable—
Houses, country seats so grand?
Is it to be free from labor,
Or from suff'ring to be freed?
Or to help a worthy neighbor
If of aid he should have need?
What is COMFORT? Through the nati-What is Comport? Through the nation Known where'er it circulates, As the foremost publication That is printed in the States. Reaching hamlet, town and city, Welcome everywhere it goes. And its wondrous value pretty Nearly ev'ry reader knows!

THE TWENTY-PAGE WORLD'S FAIR NUMBER. As the Great Columbian Fair will be inaugurated this year we make this the World's Fair No., and will follow up the plan of giving our readers an idea of the vast exhibition by presenting sketches and descriptive articles relating to the Fair each month. Subscribe for the whole year now while it only costs of the control of the whole year now while it only costs.

THE MID-WINTER NUMBER.

Our February issue will be well illustrated with sketches appropriate to Washington's Birthday, St. Valentine's Day and the World's Fair. The phenomenal success of "Comfort" assures us that a circulation of TWO MILLION can now be obtained and we trust all old subscribers will renew and many new ones be added before the next month's issue. Get up a club and obtain some premium free.

COMFORT FOR 2 CENTS.

Did you realize that it only costs about 2c. a month to take "Comfort" when you subscribe at the present low yearly rate. Who is there in this broad land who cannot spare a 2 cent piece each month to invest in this popular, entertaining and instructive monthly? Certainly there are none but what can send 25c. and receive it for the whole of this year of 1892. Don't delay, send to-day.

MIHO ARE

As we send out several thousand sample copies of Comfort each month, addressed to people who are unacquainted with us, we hereby introduce ourselves to you. We have been located in Augusta, Maine, dealing in novelties, next door to the post-office, for many years, and occupy three stories of Hunt's Block, adjoining the Granite National Bank. One of the five apartments is a display room 50 x60 feet, and we carry the largest assortment in our line east of New York. We also occupy a very large building, nearly 40 x 120 feet, on east side of Kennebec River, as a manufactory, and our 5 story Brick Publishing House is 50x70. We refer you to Hon. Geo. E. Macomber, Ex-Mayor of Augusta; Postmaster Manley; A. M. Goddard, Esq., City Solicitor; Treby Johnson, Cashier Granite National Bank, or any publisher or business house in the city. Hon. James G. Blaine and Governor E. C. Burleigh, and many leading men of the State and country, are regular customers of ours. So if there are any goods among our premiums that you feel a desire for, you may feel perfectly safe in sending your money to us. See special notice about Giant Catalogue, and send for one at once; or get up a club for Comfort, and secure the benefit of special offers. Yours truly, As we send out several thousand sample copies

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



HE ever-increasing glory of the Christmas festival has in late years robbed its twin fete, the birthday of the New Year, of much of its ancient splendor; but it still remains and will so continue till the end of time, one of the most joyous feasts in the calendar. The reason is obvious, it marks the soul's resting place as it were. Even the most ancient nations observed that with divine regularity, season succeeded season and that it required the full lapse of what we now call a year for the earth to run its seed and harvest time, sink to rest for its long sleep and then awaken on or about the first day of January when the short dark days begin to lengthen out and hope springs anew in the breast of man. Every nation has its New Year, but naturally this festival varies according as the nations of the earth make up their calendars. We busy people of the new world have from the very date of our arrival upon these shores had no time to make over our calendar. In fact so busy were we for the first century of our existence as a nation, that

dance. But no doubt some bright little maid or master will want to know why this first month of the year is called January and where it got this strange name, for surely, he or she will say, it is not good plain English. Nor is it, for it is from the ancient Romans that we get the word and this is the way it all came about. After the death of Romulus, the founder of the City of Rome, it so happened that a very good and wise king came to the throne. His name was Numa and he busied himself making laws for his people and among other good things he did for them was to make up a calendar, placing the beginning of the year just where it is now and as the month of January marked the lengthening out of the days, the ever-increasing power of the sun, how natural was it that this month should be named for the god of the sun who was called Dianus. Now if you will pronounce Dianus quickly, you will find that it sounds Janus, hence our word January. It is, you must admit, a good way back to go for a name, but it is a very appropriate one. January, the Sun Month! And there is still another interesting point to speak about. Janus had two faces, the one the face of a wrinkled old man which looked back toward the old year, and the other the face of a smiling youth which looked forward glad and hopeful toward the new year which was just beginning.

Now that we know why the first day of January was chosen to mark the beginning of the New Year and why it is called January, let us consider the significance of this Happy New Year's Day, for there is a great difference be-

DEAR FRIENDS: Here's a last farewell to Ninetyone, and a welcome to Ninety-two; a kindly greeting to everyone, and these good words to you. May health and joy attend you throughout the coming year; prosperity befriend you, sweet peace be ever near. May noble thoughts long vanished hold gentle sway again; from every heart be banished the old year's grief and pain. And now, dear friends, our warmest thanks to one and all are due; the old year's gone, we hope you'll each ✓ TAKE "COMFORT" IN THE NEW. D

We busy people of the new world were quite

we looked with suspicion and disfavor upon any holidays or festivals whatever. Our calendar was one long list of working days, but in that dark chain every seventh day was a golden link. The birth of our nation however called for a fete day as did the birthday of the Father of our country. To this meagre list was added a day of Thanksgiving. Gradually however our people awoke to the importance, nay the absolute necessity of feast days in the calendar and then the blessed natal day of our Saviour began to take hold upon our hearts and the Happy New Year too came in for its share of observance. passed the time, give an account to ourselves of our actions, pass in review our deeds, count up our lapses from the path of Duty, set black marks at our unworthy acts and red ones at our kind and generous deeds, balance the account of the year just passed to see whether we have aught of good to our credit, finally to turn over a new leaf and begin the New Year with a clean record, with new resolves written in a held hand at the head of each page!

DON'TS AND BETTER NOTS.

PLAIN PHILOSOPHY FOR THE NEW YEAR.

PLAIN PHILOSOPHY FOR THE NEW YEAR.

Don't turn over a new leaf and continue the same old account upon it.

Don't call a man mean because he keeps his expenditures inside of his receipts; he would be mean if he didn't.

Better not tell your neighbor your troubles unless you are willing to listen to his.

Better not move into a larger house this year, for comfort loves narrow quarters.

Don't forget that the New Year will be the old one next year this time.

Don't try to talk a slander down, live it down. Better not buy a new hat this year, you can only wear one at a time.

Don't think that an unfortunate man is any better off because you pity him, unless you set a price on your pity and pay it over to him. Don't condemn a man too harshly for his first offense, his fingers might have tightened on a loaf of bread while he was thinking of his hungry wife and children.

Better not put too much money in a watch so long as there is a good town clock in your village.

Don't print your virtues in capitals and your

long as there is a good town clock in your village.

Don't print your virtues in capitals and your vices in nonpareil.

Don't condemn a man because he mispronounces your name, provided he takes no liberty with your character.

Don't form bad habits the first half of your life, or it will take you the whole second half to get rid of them.

Don't expect good habits to thrive among bad ones, any more than you would expect a bed of vegetables to do its own weeding.

Don't think that the money which you lend to the Lord by giving it to the poor draws interest, that would be as bad as asking a hungry man to dine on the recollection of what he had eaten the day before.

Don't envy the rich man his dainty repast, for the richer the food the harder the digestion.

Better not put a dollar in the plate on Sun-

man to dine on the recollection of what he had eaten the day before.

Don't enry the rich man his dainty repast, for the richer the food the harder the digestion.

Better not put a dollar in the plate on Sunday if you are only thinking fifty cents.

Better not think that fine clothes make the gentleman any more than buying a violis makes you a musician.

Better not go into business for yourself before you've learned how to help others with theirs.

Better not build a house now, someone may be tired of his before the year is over.

Don't lay a carpet without consulting your wife, for she sweeps it, you don't.

**

By general consent of Christian nations, the first day of the New Year has been set apart for the exchange of congratulations. On this day we count our friends, revive old friendships, make new ones, and add fresh names to our list of acquaintances. This makes it a very important day, for as men grow old they are prone to draw away from the fellowship of their brothers and sit too much in the lengthening shadows of life's post meridian. There should be a sweetness in old age, just as there is in youth and middle age. The glad New Year comes always opportunely to turn our thoughts to our friends. An interchange of a few sunshiny words, a calling up of the olden times, and the telling off, like glorious beads of an immortal rosary, of those who have gone home, are sure to do the soul a world of good. In many lands it is the custom to begin a joyous festival on the last night of the old year so that when the New Year comes it may be greeted with glad voices and kindly feelings. Particularly is this the custom in the German fatheriand, where the night is sacred to Saint Sylveter and passed in song and feasting till the Cathedral clock tolls out the hour of midnight, whereupon in many cases even the unlettered peasant unconsciously testifies to the antiquity of the custom by crying out in Latin: Proti New Yahr! (May the New Year be a happy one for you!) We people of the new world, life if rought, with more

Dear reader, have you never had a strange feeling of sadness come over you on New Year's eve, as the old clock on the stair goes ticking its way on to the solemn hour of midnight? Did it not seem to you as if a real flesh and blood friend of yours was lying there breathing his life away and that the low tick, tick was the very rattle in his throat? No doubt, you have, unless you are a trifler and look upon life as the be all and end all. In any event, maynap, the following lines written by one of Comport's legion of readers will interest you.

A FAREWELL TO THE OLD YEAR.

Good-bye, old friend, you're sinking fast, Your sands are almost run, Your dark days and your bright are past, Your earthly task is done.

Your flowing locks are frosted white And death looks from your eye. You'll surely pass away to-night, Good-bye, old friend, good-bye. You've been so good to me, old friend! You've lightened every woe, To dark despair you put an end, 'Tis hard to have you go!

You dried my tears, you cheered my heart, You comforted my soul; Oh, dear old friend why must we part, Why break the silver bowl.

Beloved, why loose the golden chord? But hark, the morn is here! The old hath gone to its reward, All hail the fair young year!

Dear child of time, teach me to know Thy moment's priceless worth. And make the day I'm called to go My happiest day on earth!

But one word remains to be said and that is:
Dear reader, take everything that we have
written in the kindly spirit which has prompted
it. We know that people don't like to be lectured and preached at; but if we have moralized
a bit it has been done in the best of humor, and
so we close by wishing you a dear, good oldfashioned Happy New Year!

DEAR COMFORT FRIENDS:

I looked over Cousin Ceres' shoulder the other day, as she was getting up her copy for this month's paper, and caught the motty of the little lecture she was giving to the housekeepers. She will forgive me, I k: w, if I take that for my text too, as it is an idea which will bear dwelling upon. But instead of talking to you myself, I will give you some of the thoughts of greater minds on this line, and also a few other helpful words for the new year which will be far better than anything which could come from my pen. Remember our text, "One day at a time."

"Oh ask not thou, How shall I bear The burden of to-morrow? Sufficient for to-day, its care, Its evil and its sorrow; God imparteth by the way Strength sufficient for the day,"

"Sufficient for each day is the good thereof, equally as the evil. We must do at once, and with our might, the merciful deed that our hand finded to do, else it will never be done, for the hand will find other tasks, and the arrears fall through. And every unconsummated good feeling, every unfulfilled purpose that His spirit has prompted, shall one day charge us as faithless and recreant before God."

"Never delay

To do the duty which the hour brings.
Whether it be in great or smaller things,
For who doth know what he shall do the coming day?"

"It has been well said that no man ever sank under the burden of the day. It is when to-morrow's burden is added to the burden of to-day, that the weight is more than a man can bear. Never load yourselves so, my friends. If you find yourselves so loaded, at least remember this: it is when to-morrow's burdens added to the burden of to-day, that the weight is more than a man can bear. Never load yourselves so, my friends. If you find yourselves so loaded, at least remember this: it is your own doing, not God's He begs you to leave the future to Him, and mind the present."

Now just a bit of material for New Year resolutions perhaps it will help us to see our thoughts an wishes put into words.

"Let us all resolve—First, to

mark every paintul and disagreeable leature of the daily life. Third, to practise the grace and virtue of praise."

"Then learn as much as ever you can about all sorts of things, and so make this world a perpetual source of interest, and surprise, and gratification. That will keep your mind from stagnating. And then get in the way of feeling for other people's troubles, and doing what you can to help them away, and that will keep your heart from stagnating."

"Do what every one who knew it Could not choose but praise; Then let no one know you do it.

Better price it pays."

"It is good to purpose wisely; it is better to perform faithfully."

Now we will close our little "sermonette," with a Happy New Year to all. I want to speak next of the Essay Club. I intended to announce another competition in this number, but as the members have hardly had due notice of the yearly assessment of 10c. which must be paid for 1892 before any more is done, I will postpone the announcement until Feb. Remember that fees and names are now to be sent to me. I hope that the members will revive their interest, and join heartily in the next competition.

I believe the President of the Temperance Club has a report, which we will have next in order.

"Since our Temperance Union was organized on May 1 1891 we have enrolled 23 members. In the

terest, and join heartily in the next competition.

I believe the President of the Temperance Club has a report, which we will have next in order.

"Since our Temperance Union was organized on May 1, 1891, we have enrolled 23 members. In the first months we enrolled but a very few; but the last months now they have been coming in faster. As I have said before, Oct. 18, 1891, we had 23 members. Now are there only 23 among the many thousand cousins who are willing to help along the name of temperance? I know there are more; but where are they? why don't they join? Perhaps some have said, 'I have not time now, I will join to-morrow.' Well, to-morrow they forget it, and so on. How I wish I could come and give you all a good talking to on the subject of temperance. Come cousins, let us all take hold and help a little. We have called it 'The Cousins' Temperance Union'—that means more than one cousin—but unless we all take hold it will not justify its name. What has become of those that were so glad that a Temperance Union was to be organized? Have they Joined? No. Well then why don't they join? The money that we get is not going to lay in the treasury until it is no good: but it is going to be used for the benefit of the 'Comfort Invalids.' You can express your sympathy in a letter to the 'Shut Ins,' but 'sympathy' is very poor money when medicine has to be bought. A patient may be flooded with letters and still die for the want of food or medicine. It is a good thing to write a good and them something that will cure them. Is there any one so poor that he cannot give 40c. every year to send them something that will cure them. Is there any one so poor that he cannot give 40c. every year to the good of his kind? You may think that if we intend to do something with 40c. we can wait a couple of years before we will have enough to do anything; but think, once 40c. is 40c.; twice 40c. is 80c.; 4 times 40c. is \$1.60, and if we have 100 members it would amount to \$40 instead of 40c. Come, dear cousins, 'Cast your thread upon

These are sensible words, and I hope the consins will listen to them. By joining the Comfort Temperance Union, you can accomplish two worthy objects, aid the cause of temperance, and help the poor and suffering.

Dear Aunt Minerva and cousins:—I am glad to see

so many interested in the cause of temperance. It is a subject that is near and dear to every lover of the good and true. The curse of intemperance is the darkest blot that ever disgraced the glorious folds of our own stars and stripes. Never, until it is removed, can we have the strictest honesty and integrity in all of our public offices. I do not agree with Minnesota Farmer Boy in regard to dancing. An amusement that keeps one one up until the "wee sma" hours of the morning, is not calculated to improve one's health or morals. Do not think because I say this that I am old and prosy, for I am young and as "full of fun" as any one. I would like to hear from the cousins as to how one should choose his (or her) life pursuit. I live in a farming community, and naturally my friends point that occupation to me. But I think one should be partially governed by his own desires when he chooses his future walk in life, as I do not think one will succeed in a business for which he has no liking. There are too many now who have mistaken their calling, and it is a step one should consider well before he takes it.

VINCENT A. MARTIN, Sullivan, Mich.

I see so many familiar faces among those who are gathered for the chats this month, and suppose we

I see so many familiar faces among those who are gathered for the chats this month, and suppose we hear from a number of our old friends now. It is pleasant to meet them again.

pleasant to meet them again.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I knock once more for admittance to your circle. I gave a description in the April No. of a study in still life, and I am very

toward God and our fellowman to make us happier nobler and better men and women in many ways. When we Christians think of how much God has done for us and is continually doing, we should never tire in his service, in telling to others the beautiful story of a Saviour's matchless, wondrons love for poor sinful fallen humanity. As Cousin Lennie says, religion is only from God; any and all morality will not save a single one under high heaven. 'Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He hath saved us.' And 'He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, and with His stripes we are healed.' To those who are unconverted, think seriously how much Christ has done; died for us, for you each personally; read it 'He was wounded for my transgressions' and you have it. I think Wisconsin Wild Bill has rather contracted views of the good sense and self-esteem of the girls, as to think that they are not worthy to be written to by a respectable young man; but Cousin Billie, you are writing to cause argument aren't you? (and not really your sentiments.) I think the thoughts expressed in regard to education and improvement are inspiring, and if carried out will make a grand lot of men and women who are now COMFORT cousins. As for myself, my advantages for an education have been very meagre, and I have worked up to a pretty nice position, but I still desire a better education to understand the whys and wherefores, and the workings of Nature; and above all, to know more of the Book of Books.' I desire to do all the good I can, to help those that need help, and, in fact, be happy by making others happy. My advice to the girls one and all is to wait until you are old enough to know something of the responsibilities of life, and are able to take them upon yourselves; then if you see ft, look for a husband, but let me warn you, beware of the boy or man who takes 'his occasional glass:' for sooner or later (nine chances out of ten), he will become a drunkard. Then your lot

MY PETS.

The dog is a beauty, a thoroughbred Spitz, And the cat—well, the cat Spits too. Speaking of pets, I've a dog named Fritz, And a cat that I call Nanki-poo; E. L. Sulvester

Speaking of pets, I've a dog named Fritz,
And a cat that I call Nanki-poo;

E. L. Sylvester.

And a cat that I call Nanki-poo;

E. L. Sylvester.

The dog is a beauty, a thoroughbred Spitz,
And the cat—well, the cat Spits too.

It wish that some one would give me a description for some kind of a study, either still life of backets, not too large, and lay it upon its side; get a done bananas, a half dozen apples; lay some of the bananas in the basket and some needs of an overturned fruit backet and makes a beautiful effect. The prize easy on novels is what I call excellent and I quite agree with the sale and the cattering of the

considered one of the most reliable, as it is one est the ablest newspapers of the Union. I have nowed lived near the Indians, and Union. I have now were the Indians, and the intervent with the Indians, and the intervent work and it is not not only opinion that the work and it is not not only opinion that the battle. It seems prever country she may be, should be able to the square indiging the 'raw sport's abuttle.' It seems prever country she may be, should were be an angel of peace and gentleness, engaging in scenes of strife and carnage. Vet, my, worked you were far prever country she may be, should be able to the prevent of the proper who despoled you, the whole manner the life which your institute the life which your institute the life which your institute the life which you institute the life which you institute the life which you have not to give them. I think your tender hands would seek expons. The counts who speaks of my essay refers rather of the life which you be a speaks of my essay refers rather the life which you have not to give them. I think your tender hands would seek expons. The counts who speaks of my essay refers rather of the life which you have not to give them. I think your tender hands which alone is a crowning virtue; he never the life which you have not to give them. I think your tender has been and the life which you have you have you have you have you have you had you had you had you had have you had to give him he have he had you had you had you had have an or life which you had you had he had you had have and you would have a had you had have a had you had have a hor life which had you had here were the life which had you had here work you had here we would have a life which had you had here would have a life who had you had here would have a life which you had here would have a life who had you had here would have a life which had you had here would have a life which you had here woul

And made a friend sincere."

I am glad to say, I have been able with kind assistance of Miss Ross of "Shut In" society to get a wheel-chair for my poor friend. By means of this letter, dear cousins, let me bring sunshine in my poor friend's heart. Of course it hurts her to have me doubted so. "Let the strong help the weak." With love to you all, I remain your loving cousin.

MERRY SUNSHINE.

I am sorry to know that there are such mean and cowardly persons among the readers of COMFORT as



MUST BE SUMPIN. WHAT'S THIS?











WON'T COME OPEN. I'LL SEE.

HI !

those of whom Sunshine speaks. Any one who will write an anonymous letter is not worthy of a moment's attention from any well-meaning person. Boom now for more new-comers! we who are acquainted must not be selfish.

IO

moment's attention from any well-meaning person. Room now for more new-comers! we who are acquainted must not be selfish.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I beg leave for an introduction to join the society of the Owls whose discussions I have just been listening to in the Oct. No. of Comport, (a sample copy which pleases me so much, I am just subscribing.) This is a very entertaining column, and in this way, our newspapers are for the masses, educators. All the young people are discussing novel-reading. My experience (well, I am not exactly a bachelor, but possibly old enough to contribute experience) is that standard novels well-chosen can do no harm used in moderation; the ideas of English society we get from novels of a certain class; historical novels present facts of history in a pleasant color, and thus they are remembered, etc. Thus it is clear to the impartial critic that novel reading properly restricted can be very beneficial. I really think this column of this journal very valuble to the young people; its social features and general discussions. Now those of us who have the good fortune to enjoy this privilege should be ambitious to derive all the benefits possible. Wisconsin Wild Bill seems to be enjoying a pleasant notorlety from some cause; some strictures on love or something. I did not have the pleasure of reading his letter, but I doubt not he will wind up as "Benedick the married man." They generally do. Speaking of love (not to be at all sentimental or silly) brings up the question of woman's influence. Why gentlemen, woman rules the world; "the hand that rocks the cradle." But then, no one of our young triends of this column is ready to intimate anything to the contrary. It is a historical and plain fact that every man owes his greatness or what he is to a woman; therefere let us be more ready to be at all times her champion, not for any soft, sentimental reason, but for the great fact that she is the safe-guard of society, a moulder of destinies. I would like to hear from some of the cousins who feel d

be write to young virginia tarmer and ex-school-teacher. Will try to answer promptly all good sensible letters.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—May I enter the delectable portals of Comport and have a chat with the cousins? I am not a "Kow boy," a renegade, a hunter, trapper, or highflyer. When I came to this mans country I was a poor idiot boy, I didn't know enough to pour buttermilk out of a boot, subscribe for Comport or take my pump in when it rained, but now I can write an essay on primal man, beat a hasty retreat upon a snare drum, or strike an attitude when it's down. I am sojourning at present in the erstwhile great American desert, where (just previous to my advent) the classic yet rather dark completed Buffalo masticated the succulent grass of the same name; although I think it must have been much larger then than now, as in cutting it the Buffalo left chips, which Patriarch, Plainsmen, History and Tradition, aver, burned equal to coal. Men are not made of mud and stuck up here to dry, but I shall have to acknowledge that not a few of us have a large artery or two through our body, coursed by Plebian blood. We wish to ask the cousins not to send us pennies, scraps for insane patchwork, ribbons, old clothes or anything else they have to spare, although our broadcloth and silks are not made by the finest worms, we are often mistaken for Russell Sage, or my friend James Gorden Bennett. Hoping a little nonsense may be relished by you and your owls and promising a description of this portion of the Sunflower State to any applicant; also wish to exchange autographs (on visiting cards) with penmen, authors and teachers, all favors returned. Can any one send me the song, the chorus of which runs:

Oh, move your families West,
Bring all your girls and boys,

Oh, move your families West, Bring all your girls and boys, And you'll rise to wealth and honor In the State of Illinois. C. F. SNYDEE, Kidderville, Kansas.

Bring all your girls and boys,
And you'll rise to wealth and honor
In the State of Illinois.

C. F. SNYDER, Kidderville, Kansas.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I come as a pilgrim and a
stranger, and would fain be thy nephew. It is hard
to estimate the amount of good one kind word may
do, some may refuse to be benefited by it, yet that
very refusal is the means of benefiting some one else.
Last January there was a sample copy of Comfort
sent to a young man in Cherokee, lowa, and some
time in April he took it from the postoffice, and after
glancing over it for a moment, he gave it to me with
the remark that he was tired receiving sample
copies. Excuse me, dear Aunt and cousins, if I am
selfish in saying I am glad he was tired, but not so
much so but what he could hand that copy of Comfort one. I sent in my subscription immediately,
and to-day I am so happy to think I am one of the
COMPORT cousins. How anxious I am each month
until the chata with Aunt Minerva and her owls are
before my eyes. I live in the great and growing
West, where soon the golden grain will be gathered
in, where the farmer's bins are filled to overflowing
with the numerous products that our rich, productive
soil will produce, and where all nature seems profuse with decorations at this season of the year.
Cherokee is the largest city in the county (of the
same name.) It has some 4000 inhabitants. The new
court-house that is under way will cost \$40,000.
There are two very fine schools, and many beautiful
churches and hotels. It is situated on the banks of
the "merry Little Sioux," as it is called in this part
of the State, and a few miles south of the old, as well
as historical, Fort Cherokee, that was built to protect the daring frontiersmen from the savage Indian
of those days. The city and fort are named after a
well known tribe of Indians. Your nephew is now
ougaged in learning telegraph operating and station
work in the thriving little town of Quimby, situated
ten miles south of Cherokee, that was built to protect the daring frontiersmen from soon and himself alone. A man should keep his friendships in constant repair!" I can safely say that he who tries to ennoble friendship is best worthy of the name of friend, and he who belittles it has fewer claims to man's humanity. Sincerely, WILL TAGGERT, Quimby, Cherokee Co., Iowa.

has fewer claims to man's humanity. Sincerely, WILL TAGGERT, Quimby, Cherokee Co., lowa. How widely our little Comport circulates, and how many new friends it makes, we do not any of us realize. Let each of the cousins do all in his or her power to bring its good cheer into as many homes as possible. It would be a pleasant New Year greeting to your friend, to send him a year's subscription; how could you both get more comfort for 25 cents? We rejoice in its prosperity at the beginning of this new year. Here comes still another friend and cousin with kind words in its praise.

"I venture to write and tell you how much I enjoy your paper, its letters from the cousins, and best of all 'The Sabbath Hour.' Why Auntie! you don't know what a help that column of beautiful quotations is. I have read Comport for two years, and of the numerous papers which I have, I enjoy it the most. It has improved wonderfully since I first became acquainted with it. What puzzles me is how you can afford to sell such a wonderful paper for such a small price. I am a school-teacher of 20, and I live in a suburb of Syracuse, the great salt city of N. Y. State. The village wherein I reside is one of most beautiful of central N. Y. All the streets are beautifully shaded and paved with cement. Within a nile of the village are two waterfalls and pionic grounds rivaling Ontario Beach (?) The celebrated \$5. John's Military School is situated in my native place. I have heard of but few of the cousins who are Christian Endeavorers, are there not more? In

ble if I did not receive my payment as soon as it was due, or if my boarding-place was at a greater distance than I wished to walk; but after reading Jennie C. Evans' letter from Marsland, Neb., and she says she walked two miles to school and had to wait a year for her pay, I am contented. I should like to hear from any of the cousins interested in school-teaching and who would like to hear about N. Y. State. If there are any I will do my prettiest to interest them. Already I hear Auntie say as my old geometry teacher said, 'Such nonsense, no brains!' when we made a foolish mistake. With love to all the cousins and a great deal to Aunt Minerva, I remain a true friend of COMFORT and wish it God speed.

The "Yankees" have hitherto been rather silent, but I am glad to see one come forward with a description of a part of our beautiful Eastern country.

but I am glad to see one come forward with a description of a part of our beautiful Eastern country.

"Having never seen a letter from the 'Heart of the Commonwealth,' (Worcester, Mass.,) I thought I would be the first one to write. Few cities of the U. S. are any more beautifully situated than is Worcester. Placed as it is, nestled among the hills of central Mass., it has been endowed and surrounded by nature to the extent that it excites the praise and admiration of every visitor for its natural beauty. At its eastern boundary lies Lake Quinsigamond, one of the most lovely sheets of water to be found anywhere in the world, nearly 6 miles long, of a varying width, with clear water of a depth in some places of over 90 feet, and with wooded shores; it is a place that has caused poets to sing its praises in verse, and others to describe it in the most glowing words of prose. It furnishes for thousands of people a natural park, where day after day may be passed in the discovery of new beauties and never ending enjoyment. The surface is dotted with many islands of varying size, and the numerous small steamers, sail boats and pleasure boats that glide over it during the summer months, give to it a spirit of life that must be seen to be appreciated. Success and long life to COMFORT.

EASTERN BOY."

EASTERN BOY."

We must close our Chats now, or the Editor will be saying that we talk too much. I want to speak once more of sending subscriptions and orders to me. Owing to a new arrangement which has been lately made concerning my mail, all subscriptions or orders sent to me are liable to be delayed a month or more, so it will be for your interest to send them directly to the office of Comfort, where they can be at once attended to. Private letters are also liable to the same delay of a month in answering. Please remember to enclose stamp when sending letters to be forwarded.

The Editor also wants me to invite you all to send a photo with your letters this month, so we can have a pictorial page. Make your letters brief but interesting and all come with us for the illustrated issue, so we may see your faces in Comfort as well as hear you speak through our columns. Write your full name and address on back of pictures and they will be returned in due season. Address,

Aunt Minerva, (Care of Comfort, Augusta, Me.)



A Child's Love for a Doll.

A Child's Love for a Doll.

Did you ever notice the tender, motherly affection that a young girl displays for her first doll? And did it ever strike out of the cradle vidence of instinct that a girl just out of the cradle vidence to the naturally to a doll where a boy of the same age won't even look at one? It seems in accordance with the eternal fitness of things that a girl is born with the latent instincts of motherbood, and takes to a doll as naturally as a woman takes to her baby.

It does not make the slightest difference to the child whether her doll cost fifty dollars or fifteen cents. She has the same reverence for it, the same solloitude for its proper treatment, the same attention to pay to it. Whether it be clothed in rags or in purple and fine linen, whether it be made of wax, wood, china, leather or composition, the doll has the same love bestowed upon it.

And it is also noticeable that no amount of misfortune or ill luck that doll may experience can estrange the child's affection. If accident, or the ravages of time, deprive it of an arm, or leg, or both; if continual handling detaches the scalp and leaves the doll baid, trifles of that kind are not considered valid reasons for abandonment, but rather demand a larger share of sympathy and love from the doll's owner. Nay, we have even known an absolutely limbless trunk, headless at that, treasured in its folds of rags as a miser treasures his hoard, and regarded with the same pride that it evoked when in all the symmetry and beauty and youth of perfect dollhood!

Earcily a waking hour is spent without Dolly in her embrace. Then we may have a doubt and the child is placed in her reast warm took, one other occupant has to share her couch and slumbers—that dear, delightful, disreputable looking doll up we have overcome the great to do this and you save a least one dollar and get a pretty substantial doll for almost nothing. They will last for years and be a joy forever to any miss who does not want one doll for ilor our goods Morse & Co. will send o



Little Brown Jugs Given Away.

There has been a great demand for these Little Brown Jugs of late and the publishers of Comport have had a million made to give away to their subscribers; they have generally sold for 10c. each at the stores and are very popular to wear on watch chains or around the neck for charms. Men, women and children wear them, and to make Comport more popular Morse & Co. will give one free to any one sending 2c. for postage, or when sending 25c. for subscription or renewal of same say you want a jug and we will pay postage ourselves. We want everybody to have one and have them for sale by the hundred if any society desire them in quantity for badges.

CROCHET everything with Kensington Crochet Twist—any color—large ball 10c. C. G. HUBERT, 85 Walker St., New York.

HARNESS FREE. A handsome illustrated cata-logue of harness, at inside wholesale prices, sent free by addressing Flour City Harness Comp'y, Minneapolis, Minn.

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\$500 IN CASH PRIZE CAC IF YOU SOLVE

The above rebus is the name of a South Wester which is it? To the first person who sends a correct on or before February 28th, 1889, will give a tash. To the Second \$600. To the Third \$250. Of the next Ten, \$100. To each of the next twenty-five, a Solid Gold fill To each of the last twenty-five sending the correct we will send an Agent's outfit that retails for \$60. Treat offer ismade to introduce the best pain cur world, with your answer send 30 cts. in stamps to p package of Br. Pinero's Pain Pigment, a cure for Rheumatism, Headache and Neuraigia. The sending the control of the pain cure for Rheumatism, Headache and Neuraigia. We B. WILLIAMS Wester States and the same first, and secure one of the big prizes. Address: W. B. WILLIAMS Wester States and secure one of the big prizes. tt, and secure one of the big prizes. Address:
W. B. WILLIAMS, Montclair, New Jersey.



GIVEN AWAY TO THOSE WHO



The above Rebus is an OLD SAYING, familiar every one. WHAT IS 177 We will give to hirst person from whom were eleve the correct answer, on or before February 29th, 1892, \$100.00 in gold. The second, \$50; to the chird, \$25; to the next five persons, a Handsome Silk brees Pattern of 16 yards in Black, Blue, Green, Brown or Gray. To the next to a Solid Gold Genuine Blamond Ring, and to the next is sending in the correct answer, \$50.00 each. To the person from whom we receive the last correct aswer, we will give \$100.00 in Gold, to the next to the last \$50, to the next \$25, the next 5, a Handsome Silk breas Pattern of 16 yards in no eof above colors. To the next 10 a Solid Gold Genuine Dlamond Ring, and to the next 18 (should there be so many sending in correct answers) \$5.00 to each. We prepay all shipping the tanswer is received. All the sending on the same day the answer is received. All the same of the same day the answer is received. All the BBS LITTLE VEGETABLE PILLS.

TAKEAPILL, Babra and Bowells of the same to read a diversion. They are sugar contect, do not gripe, very small, easy to take, one pill a dose, and are purely vegetable. Perfect digestion follows their use. They small, easy to take, one pill a dose, and are purely vegetable. Perfect digestion follows their use. They also interest to any bank or business and the same and deresses of an experiment of the person of the same and a decided. Pills sent to any bank or business and the same and decided ple lading physicians.

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When our readers answer the ment please mention the Comfort.

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Decorated in Five Natural Colors.
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E are IMPORTERS of Tea and Coffee, China and Crockery, and do the largest Tea and Coffee business in Boston (direct with consumers). We also carry a large stock and sell at the lowest possible Cash prices Dinner and Tea Sets, Silver-plated Ware, Lamps, also Lace Curtains and Table Linen (our own importation). To those who take the time and trouble to get up Clubs for Tea, Coffee, Spices and Extracts, we offer premiums. In buying Tea and Coffee from us, you get find value for the money invested and get a premium and you get goods that are direct from the IMPORTERS. If you buy Tea and Coffee from your grocer you pay three or four profits and pay for a premium, but do not get it. In an article published in one of the largest dailies in this country it was claimed the tea bought from the retail grocer showed a profit of 100 per cent. The moral is plain, buy from first hands.

We have been doing business in Boston for 17 years, and the publishers of this paper will testify to our undoubted reliability. We do a business of over \$300,000 yearly, and our Cash sales of Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets, Silverware, Lamps, etc., amounted to \$65,000 in 1891 aside from our Tea and Coffee sales. Our illustrated Price and Premium List tells the whole story. We like to mail it to all who write for it; it costs you nothing and will interest you. 136 pages.

THE LONDON TEA CO., 815 Washington Street, Boston.

"Tell us some of your Oklahoma adventures to-night, Uncle Ned," said Winnie Dawson as the last one of this group of friends gathered around the noted secut and Indian fighter, Ned Todd, in the quiet parlor of the hotel.

quiet parlor of the hotel.

"Well," said Ned, after filling his pipe and thinking a few minutes, "did I ever tell you about the time Archie Holland and I went down through this tertitory in search of Archie's father, how we lost our horses through the treachery of a gang down below here and found them by the help of an idiot?"

"No, no, Uncle Ned," came from several voices, and Jack Royal chimed in:

"Well, idiots are good for something then ain't they?"

"Well, idiots are good to be sentenced they?"

"Do tell us about it?" said Whitson, with an eye to getting more points for his stories.

"All right I will. We had rescued a young girl from a band of ruffians who had confined her in the cellar of an old house, and we were flying away from our pursuers as fast as we could go, when Archie took in the situation, and realized that a sacrifice must be made.

made.
"'Major,' he always called me by that name, "we must separate. You are fresh and strong; die rather than give the girl up to the enemy."
"He led them into a ravine in pursuit of him, thus throwing them off my track. They captured him and took him to the old house which we had so lately laft.

took him to the old house which we had so lately left.

"The crippled idiot still lay upon the floor, but awakened by the entrance of the two brigands with their prisoner, he began chuckling and screaming with delight.

"Shet up, Snap, shet up" cried'one of the guards.

"He, he, he, he, he, he! laughed the idiot, kicking and rolling and chuckling, as he held the sheepskin rug in his arms. The foremost guard at last administered a kick in his side, which momentarily silenced him.

"Snap's an idiot, he's a fool, an' he'd jest as soon eat ye up as not,' said one of the guards.

"Archie made no response, but suffered himself to be tied to a chair with deer skin thongs, so tightly that he could not rise.

"Then the two outlaws sat down, after stirring up the embers, and gazed into the fire. The idiot, as was his singular custom, after being, kicked went to sleep.

being kicked went to

"The night's agoin' away, an' we'll
not git one wink o'
sleep,' said one of the
guarda.
"Yes."
"Why can't we
sleep one at a time?"
"The man addressed cast a longing look at the door
leading into the bedroom and said:
"I don't see why
one o' us couldn't
sleep, Jack."
"No, nuthin' to
hinder it."
"Well, who'll turn
in fust."
""Leadraw straws

"'Well, who'll turn in fust.'
"'Less draw straws an' see who it'll be.'
"'Well.'
"'Git the straws.'

"Git the straws."
"The idiot turned over and chuckled in his sleep, and the man called Jack rose and going to a broom that stood in the corner broke out a couple of straws.

"Here they are, Tom,' said Jack, with a yawn.
"All right,' the drowsy Tom answered.
"The idiot chuckled in his sleep.
"Eh, Bnap, yer a fool, aint ye?" said Jack, touching the sleeping cripple with his foot. The idiot awoke, and laughed and chuckled, kicking his clubbed feet about in the air.
"Let him alone, Jack. Let's see who's goin' to git the fust sleep,' said Tom, with a yawn.
"They was a see who with a yawn.

"They drew straws, and Jack was the fortunate

man.
"'Good,' he laughed. 'Luck's on my side at last.'
"Tom swore at his ill luck and told Jack to go off

bed.
'Guess I'll git along some way,' he growled.
'When'll the others come back?' asked Jack.
'Soon ez they git the other feller an' the gal.'
'That's not likely to-night.'
'Did Bryce go with 'em?'
'Yes.'

"'An' than's none o' the household up at this hour ter git a feller a drink o' liquor?"
"Yo."

"No."
"Jack arose to his feet again, and stretching his arms upward to their enormous length, yawned.
""Wall, good night, Tom,' he said, as he went to the adjoining room, in which was a bed.
""Good night, and little good will all the sleep ye git this night do ye."
"Jack laushed but made no snawer.

"Good night, and little good will all the sleep ye git this night do ye."

"Jack laughed, but made no answer.

"Tom was now alone with his prisoner. He leaned back in the large, old-fashioned rocking chair and closed his eyes. He was almost asleep when a slight movement on the part of his prisoner caused him to swake, and snatching his pistol from its scabbard, he leveled it at Archie's head.

"Jist try it ef ye dare."

"I was not trying to get away,' said Archie.

"Ye lle, ye know ye war a tryin' ter git away from me,' oried the angry guard.

"I am tied so tightly that my wrists are very paintl, and I cannot sit long in one position."

"Wall, ye'll be quiet now, ef I hev ter shoot ye ter make ye do so."

"An hour passed, and the guard snored. The prisoner was in great pain, but so overcome by long days of fatigue and loss of sleep, that he was dozing, when he felt something touch his legs.

"In a moment he was wide awake.

"At his feet, crouching like some animal, was the mysterious, idiotic cripple. What was he doing? Bound as he was, the prisoner could not exactly see what he was about. But suddenly he felt his feet freed.

"The idiot then raised himself to a crouching position, so that he could look into the face of the prisoner, and winked. Grotesque and distorted as those features were, there was something fine and noble and familiar about them. What was it? He had never seen a man in his life so deformed by accident or nature or suffering.

"The cripple slowly crept around to his rear, and there remained for a moment. He could feel his

"The cripple slowly crept around to his rear, and there remained for a moment. He could feel his asiry, scarred face against his wrist and that he was grawing the deer skin thonys that bound him.

"In a very few moments the captive's hands were freed, and the cripple gathering up the pieces of thongs put them in the prisoner's pockets, and crept noiselessly back to his rug and lay down to sleep. The prisoner could not but admire the cunning and courage of this remarkable cripple.

"Who was he and what was there so strange about him? Often had he heard it whispered when on the border, that there was a mystery in Oklahoma, which was beyond the power of man to solve. He had heard of a man there who was part animal and part human. Was this the Oklahoma mystery which had been magnified into such a fabulous description as was going all over the West?

"When the cripple had reached his rug, he raised his head and pointed with his mis-shapen hand toward the door.

"Arch Holland was not slow to follow his suggss-

"When the cripple had reached his rug, he raised his head and pointed with his mis-shapen hand toward the door.

"Arch Holland was not slow to follow his suggsstion. He rose softly from the chair on which he was sitting and went to the door, which was bolted on the inside. Leaning against the wall, by the side of the door, was a rifle, which was outlined by the faintly smouldering fire. A belt containing two revolvers and a knife was hanging across the muzzle of the gun. When Archie reached the door he paused, with one hand on the butt of one of the pistols, and looked back at the sleeping guard. But his breathing was so heavy that there was no doubt of his being asleep, and there seemed but little danger of waking him.

"He carefully raised the revolver belt and buckled it about his waist. It fitted exactly, and to his joy he recognized it as belonging to himself, and thanking the fates and shrewd cripple who lay sleeping so innocently on the rug, the youth cautiously opened the door and walked out of the house.

"Before he had gone a fourth of a mile he heard noises ahead of him, and coming to a halt listened.

"It's human voices,' he said.

"There was no mistake about it, for he could even hear some of the words that were spoken.

"Well we're nearly there,' one was saying.

"Then the words grew indistinct, owing perhaps to a slight change in the wind. Archie Holland knew that those men approaching him were either the returning bandits or a party of the Oklahoma boomers or soldiers sent to eject them. But the chances were greatly in favor of their being brigands.

"He concealed himself behind a tree, and with his thumb on the hammer of his rifle, waited until they passed by.

"I knowed it would be a wild goose chase,' one said.

"It beats all how the fellers come to let Todd git away after they once had their clutches on him.'

passed by.

"I knowed it would be a wild goose chase,' one said.

"It beats all how the fellers come to let Todd git away, after they once had their clutches on him.'

"It was Jack an' Tom's fault.'

"It war Cap Snell's fault. What do he want to take prisoners fur anyway? Ez long ez we didn't we never hed any trouble. 'Dead men tell no tales' ye know, an' now this feller an' gal's got away an'il spread the news fur an' wide, until we hev a hull army o' soldiers an' detectives down on us.'

"Maybe we'll git 'em yit.'

"No we won't.'

"Why?"

"Cos I know they'll not be cotched.'

"But Cap an' some o' 'em are still out, an' as soon as it's daylight, which won't be very long off neither, they'll git on their trail.'

"Yes, but the fools went off without a single hoss, and what's a man goin' ter do afoot?"

"Haint the others afoot an' won't we be back in time to help 'em out with the hosses?"

"It him it's doubtful. Didn't Jack an' Tom stay behind to guard that other prisoner?"

"Yes.'

"Like ez not they'll let him git away."

Like ez not they'll let him git away.

behind to guard that other prisoner?"

"'Yes.'

"'Like ez not they'il let him git away."

"Ha, ha, ha! Dyke, yer out o' humor to-night!"

"They had passed the fugitive, and were now so far away that their yoices could be no longer heard. It was with no little degree of satisfaction, that Archie Holland heard the above conversation.

"He was walking rapidly through the woods, when he all of a sudden came upon two horses tethered to a tree. Each horse had a saddle upon his back.

"In the course of five minutes he satisfied himself that there was no one about the horses, and as it gradually grew lighter to his joy he recognized the horses as his and my own; he put a lariat around my horse's head and started as fast as he could in the direction he supposed I had taken. After several hours of circling around the open he discovered me on the edge of a cliff where I had taken the young lady to a place of comparative safety.

"And as this has been an extremely long story you children must hurry away to bed, and at another time I will tell you how we escaped from the country without further trouble."

"Good-night Uncle Ned."

"Good-night Uncle Ned."

"Good-night Winnie, Jack; Jack, behave yourself."

"Well I will if you will also give us that other love story next time."

"And all the readers of Comfort may look forward with interest to the February number, where many new and exciting sketches will be presented. Look out for the great thousand dollar serial story. Subscribe now, so as to be sure and obtain all of the parts complete.

The Coming World's Columbian Exposition.

CONUINUED FROM PAGE 1.

The intial meeting of the Commission was held in Chicago on June 26, 1890, and soon thereafter a permanent organization was effected.

Of the National Commission Thomas W. Palmer of Michigan is the President. George R. Davis was elected Director General; Moses P. Handy was appointed Chief of Department of Promotion and Publicity; and of the Board of Lady Managers Mrs. Potter Palmer was made President. When it was decided that the fair should be at Chicago, a local board of Directors was chosen by vote of the subscribers to the stock. The duty of this board being to select the site, a then unsettled question, to build the buildings and transfer them to the National Commission, and generally to conduct the business of the Exposition under the rules made by the Commission. This board organized with Lyman S. Gage, president; Thomas B. Bryan, first vice-president; Potter Palmer, second vice-president; Benj. Butterworth, Jr., secretary; Anthony F. Seeberger, treasurer; and William K. Ackerman, auditor; but since William T. Baker has succeeded Mr. Gage as Presideut.

The question of site was a difficult one but all conflicting interests were happily reconciled and it was finally decided that the fair should be located upon Jackson Park on the lake front at the southern extermity of Chicago, the near-by Washington Park and so much of the Lake Front nearer to the center of the city as the Commission should think necessary; but it seems certain that the buildings will all be near together at Jackson and Washington Parks.

The management has been energetic: the responses of Foreign Governments have been prompt and cordial, and most of the States of the Union have made liberal provision for their own exhibitions.

The selected site is a busy place. Already five of the twelve important buildings besides other and cordial, and most of the States of the Union have made liberal provision for their own exhibitions. The selected site is a busy place. Already five of the twelve important buildings besides other and cordial, and m

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Now that the holidays were over and the New Year had set in in earnest, Mrs. Cripps began to argue with herself that it was about time something was done by her society to suppress the political drinking club of which her husband was president and founder. She had, she believed, been somewhat premature in supposing that the mere fact of her starting a woman's club would induce Caleb to break upor abandon his. Nothing of the kind happened. After the first few growls and sneers Mr. Cripps went on in the same old way, as if utterly unconscious of the existence of such a society as the Tattleback Tea. Table Club.

Ball have pleasure in listening to your complaint, and righting your wrongs if possible."

"Thank you," answered Dorothy with a great show of mock politieness, "you have the law on your show of mock politieness, "you have the law on your off the benefit see, but we have justice on ours."

"What is your name?" asked Caleb sternly "Corthy Cripps!" replied the complainant. "Married or single?" inquired Caleb.

"Age?" went on Caleb.

"Caleb Cripps, mind your own business!" fairly shrighed Dorothy. "You know my age as well as I do!"

Table Club.

In fact it was remarked by the townspeople that Caleb became more dissipated than ever and Dorothy was forced to admit to herself that so far her venture had not been a success, that is in the suppression of drinking in the town. Nay, it was a matter of common talk that many recruits were received every week into Caleb's club, and that some of these, from being comparatively temperate men, were rapidly developing into nightly drunkards.

This was a condition of things too shocking to be tolerated, and to make matters worse there were not wanting people of both sexes who began to hint that if women would set the example what could be expected from the men? Others suggested that a woman's society was properly her husband's and that if she abandoned her home and her domestic duties, nobody could blame a man for doing a similar thing.

These remarks stirred Dorothy into the determina-

duties, nobody could blame a man for doing a similar thing.

These remarks stirred Dorothy into the determination to adopt a vigorous policy at the next meeting of the T. T. T. C. and she resolved to begin the New Year by using some very energetic measures.

Now, it should be distinctly understood that when Caleb bought out Ike Dowdy's saloon and converted it into a political club, he had transferred to himself the license, which was the only one of its kind—for the sale of liquor—in the whole town. When, therefore, the members of the T. T. T. C. met in January Dorothy opened the proceedings by calling upon all the married ladies present who had husbands in Caleb's club to step forward and give their names. Some thirty women responded, and stated complainingly that their husbands came home several times a week in various gradations of intoxication, and that they would do all in their power to help suppress the club and stop the sale of liquor.

"I looked through the front window the other evening as I passed by," said Maria Pullet, "and had a fearful illus!ration of



WHEN THE SWALLOWS HOMEWARD FLY,

when the swallows homeward ply,
for every man had a glass to his throat and was imbibing liquor at a rapid rate."

"I have a scheme," said Dorothy, rising, "by
which I think we can put an effectual stop to this degrading drinking, but it will be necessary for me to
have the co-operation of many of you in order to
succeed."

A general and vockerous acquiescence convinced
Dorothy that the club was with her in any plan she
proposed to carry out, therefore she had no difficulty
in enlisting the services of nineteen ladies, besides
herself, who were to form a delegation to wait upon
the sheriff next day.

There was great excitement among all the ladies
when it became known that the sheriff was going to
be appealed to in the matter, for everybody knew
that Caleb was deputy under Sheriff Jackson, and
also that there was considerable iil-feeling between
them since Cripps' last escapade, when he was bound
over to keep the peace towards Dorothy.

Business was therefore transacted in a nervous
kind of way, yet feeling ran considerably high
against the men, and developed itself in innumerable
denunciatory speeches against drink in general and
Caleb's liquor in particular. Maria Pullet and
Martha Jagger were the most prominent speakers
and they urged upon all the necessity of profound
secrecy in order that their plans might not be frustrated. Yet, alsa for a woman's way of keeping a
secret! There-was hardly a member of the club who
would have admitted that she had even whispered
the matter to herself, and yet scarcely a man in Tattleback who did not know all about it next morning
at breakfast!

Dorothy bad arranged that all the members of the
delegation should call on her at her house at ten
clock way man in the meeting way.

Dorothy had arranged that all the members of the delegation should call on her at her house at ten clock next morning, but in the meantime some men who were adepts at practical joking had contrived to et Sheriff Jackson out of Tattleback on business of

get Sheriff Jackson out of Tatticuates alleged importance.

Thus was it that when Mrs. Cripps and her nineteen attendants were ushered into the little court room, after requesting an audience with the sheriff, they found themselves confronted by Caleb himself, looking duly important and undeniably angry.

"Well, madam," he said imperiously to his wife as she advanced to his bench. "What is it that you remire?"

she advanced to his bench. "What is it that you require?"
"I am here, sir," replied Dorothy unflineingly, but with a misgiving at her heart. "I am here to make a complaint."
"You must be sworn first," interrupted Caleb, motioning to his clerk, a long, lanky, hery haired man with a carefully freekled complexion.
"You can swear for me," remarked Dorothy with an accent on the verb.
"Silence, woman!" cried Caleb hotly, as he took his pen and opened a book. "What is your name?"
"Rats!" replied Dorothy, sweetly.
"Woman!" roared Caleb at the top of his voice as he pounded the bench with his gavel. "If you dare to speak to me again like that I shall have you committed for contempt of court!"
"Well, if you constitute the court I shall plead guilty," replied Dorothy defiantly. "We are here to make a complaint, and we are going to make it, although you are not the important personage of whom we asked the interview."
"Indeed," replied Mr. Cripps with a foreboding glare in his eye. "After you have been sworn madam, and have answered the clerk's questions correctly, we, with a particular recent on the "we")

"Age?" persisted Caleb.
"Thirty-seven!" yelled poor Dorothy beginning to

"Age?" persisted Caleb.

"Thirty-seven!" yelled poor Dorothy beginning to cry.

"Where do you live?"

"At Shotts Corner, with an idiot!" continued Mrs. Cripps, changing her cry to a laugh.

"I didn't ask you who with," sneered Caleb, "only an idiot would have married you!"

"Well, I got him!" answered Dorothy, sententiously.

"The nature of your complaint?" inquired the deputy as he rested on his elbow and looked his wife in the face.

"My husband, the aforesaid idiot, is a member of a political club now held where old Ike Dowdy's saloon was. I have to-day notified the president of that club by mail not to permit my husband to drink any intoxicating liquors hereafter under penalty of the law. I wish an order from you for the arrest of the president, in whose name the license is held, should he fail to comply with my request. I have here," and Dorothy waved her hand behind her, "nineteen married ladies with similar complaints."

Caleb leaned back in his chair, closed one eye, looked at the ceilling with the other, whistled a few bars from an obsolete opera, and—laughed.

"So Mrs. Cripps," he said, with a cheap sort of smile on his face, "you wish me to arrest myself, if I sell liquor to myself after this date. Is that it?"

"That is the situation Mr. Cripps, exactly," returned Dorothy with a half sneer.

"And have these ladies got equally sensible complaints?" asked the deputy, as he motioned in direction of the ladies, who had been somewhat amused witnesses of the strange proceedings.

"Their complaints are of a similar nature," replied Dorothy.

"Then to save time, madam, I may tell you that I shall take care not to sell your husband any more liquor."

"You will?"

"You will?"

"You will?"

"He the requires. Neither he nor I need pay for anything more in my club."

"Wretch!" shouted Dorothy, "dare you try to evade the law?"

"There is no law against giving a man a drink in this State, only against selling it to him," said Caleb.

anything more in my club."
"Wretch!" shouted Dorothy, "dare you try to evade the law?"
"There is no law against giving a man a drink in this State, only against selling it to him," said Caleb.
"Then I shall see the sheriff himself on his return, and try other means," replied Dorothy. "This is an outrage and a planned affair!"
"Thank you, madam. I have the honor to wish you a very good morning," said the deputy with becoming dignity. Then to the clerk-usher he said, "Show these ladies out, Ferret!"
Mrs. Cripps and her bevy of friends filed out into the square somewhat crest fallen but in a highly excited mood. "Let us repair to the club," said Dorothy, "where we can talk the matter over without any fear of being overheard."
"Just so," assented the ladies, "let us go to the club where we shall not be overheard!"
"Although," continued Dorothy, with a mixture of asperity and sarcasm in her voice. "It is pretty evident that we were not overheard last evening, and yet some woman has been indiscreet enough to divulge our plan and thus give warning to the enemy."
"Too bad indeed," said Selina Jones. "I never said

divulge our plan and thus give warning to the enemy."

"Too bad indeed," said Selina Jones. "I never said a word about it at home, except to Jasper."

"Oh, you told Jasper did you?" asked Dorothy incisively.

"Well I increly mentioned that we were going in a body to ask the sheriff to suppress your husband's club. There was no harm at all in that was there?"

"None whatever, Mrs. Jones, nobody could have guessed anything from what you said," replied the president in a cutting voice.

"Well I'm sure nobody learned anything from me," said Maria Pullet, with emphasis. "Seth asked me scornfully last night when we were going to shut up his club, and I told him to wait until to-day and see what the sheriff would do about it. That is all he could get out of me!"

"It was hardly enough, was it?" asked Dorothy with one of her most withering looks. "Seth could never have gathered the facts from what you told him!"

"Come to think of it" said Mrs. Traggle, after due reflection, "I did mention to Josiah last night what we intended to do this morning. But of course he wouldn't mention it to a living soul!"



PALSEN, ED A. COURT

"Certainly not!" murmured Dorothy. "You did not say anything about it to your husband did you, Mrs. Jagger?"
"Not a word," said Martha solemnly. "Jagger asked me why I was so late last night and I told him to go to the court room at ten o'clock this morning and see."

and see."
"The secret has been well kept indeed," cried Dorothy derisively, as they seated themselves in the club room. "It is only two meetings ago, Martha, since you argued in this very room that it was necessary to teach a woman how to talk, and I told you it came natural to a woman anyhow. Don't you think I was richt?"

right?"
"Oh you're always right," replied Martha seornfully, drawing herself up to her full height of six feet. "Except," she added spitefully, "on occasions like this morning when you get left!"
"No personal remarks, please," said Dorothy, deprecatingly, holding up her hand. "Mr. Cripps and

myself will settle that little affair to my satisfaction when I get him home. I told him last night that I would have him before the sheriff again this morning and I'll do it yet!"
"You, you told him!" cried a chorus of voices.
"Then it was you who gave him warning and we are in no way to blame! Dorothy, that was very indiscreet."

"Then it was you who gave him warning and we are in no way to blame! Dorothy, that was very indiscreet."

"Oh," replied Dorothy, reddening, "he did not know what I meant. He could not have ever guessed at what charge I was going to make!"

"Of course not!" chorused the sarcastic ones. "How could he care much when he was going to receive the charge himself!"

"Listen!" cried Dorothy, in a solemn voice. "This is no time for recriminations. We must find out when Sheriff Jackson returns and then I will have Caleb presented at court the next day. In the meantime let me beg of you to keep silent about this new arrangement. Let us be true to each other and our cause, and victory will still be ours in spite of all opposition. There have been many new projects, plans and enterprises broached at the club during recent meetings, but I maintain that the primary principle of this club, and the object of its foundation, was and is, to root out he whiskey traffic above all things, and compel a man to recognize his wife as his equal, and give to her proper respect. Let us not lose sight of this guiding principle to go chasing after Jack-o'-lanterns. Our first duty is to down the liquor traffic, and until that is successfully done, I for one shall not engage in any other project whatever."

Dorothy's opinions were all shared by the rest of the delegation, and it was unanimously resolved by the twenty ladies to endeavor to take away Caleb's license and break up the so-called political organization before the February meeting of the Tattleback Tea Table Club. Thus decided, the members proceeded to their several homes in various moods and dispositions.

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WHAT A LARGE PUBLISHING HOUSE COINC OUT OF THE BUSINESS

threw a great quantity of Music Books on the market; we were lucky enough way down here in Maine to secure the lot at almost nothing, and for this week will send one collection only to a person on receipt of six cents. When you consider that you are to receive over twelve dozen songs with music for a mere song, you will probably make haste to answer, as they wont last long, and you will probably find some piece in the lot that you have hunted high and low for, and would not sell for \$1.00, and, yes, "Comrades" is in it, also 144 other popular songs.

> MORSE & ÇO. BOX 15, AUGUSTA, ME.



HERE is a tingle about the atmosphere these charming January days that causes us to hover around the fire and study and think, and I feel certain that many of you have been studying and thinking, from the pile of letters before me full of posers, and I assure you that I am gratified beyond measure, at the display of confidence reposed by you in your old uncle whom you have never seen, only in mind. And I am certain I have as much pleasure in receiving these letters as you have in sending them, for they come to me as reminders of my young days when I was so anxious to gain information, and was obliged to wait many times for an opportunity to ask some one to explain to me about something of interest which I could not find described in the few books at hand in our home. Oh how glad I would have been to have had an old uncle, who was not only willing but anxious to give me the benefit of a long life's experience in research and study. Send in your letters and questions and they shall all have attention either by mail or in our page of Comport.

I have one request to make, however, do not ask me those silly love questions which are very disgusting to most people, for I have neither time nor inclination to give them any attention beyond the mere reading of the letter and tossing it into the waste-basket.

All are welcome to come with questions which are of general interest and benefit, and I promise all to do my best. I must thank my dear children for the fine letters on the last contest, as to how they would entertain a small company at their own home for two hours and I am exceedingly sorry not to have space for more of the letters in this column this month, as I am sure many would gain valuable ideas, in a matter which is a great source of worry to hundreds of young people who are amply able to show their friends attention if they only knew how to keep all well entertained while at their homes.

Coe. the editor of Comport, and I have gone exertily through the stack of letters and selected the following letter as t

of the experiment.

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Nov. 18th, 1891.

My dear Uncle:—It is with pleasure that I take advantage of your request and now give you an account of the last social gathering we had at our house.

I wanted something new and finally decided on a "Progressive Conversation Party." About ten days previous to the night decided upon, I sent out invitations, which were not formal ones, as those invited were all particular friends, using fine white note paper, unruled. My invitations were about as follows:

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., October 30th, 1891.

My Dear Friend:—On Tuesday. Nov. 10th. I

using fine white note paper, unruled. My invitations were about as follows:

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., October 30th, 1891.

My Dear Friend:—On Tuesday, Nov. 10th, I am going to have a social gathering of a few friends, and sincerely hope you will be able to join us, as we are to have a new feature, in the shape of "Progressive Conversation."

Yours sincerely, Louise——.

From eight to ten o'clock.

As only twelve were invited, six ladies and six gentlemen, I now bought one-half dozen pretty cards, and on these arranged the topics, one on each card. "Is novel reading injurious?" "Give an account of the life of your favorite author;" "Entertain your partner with an original story;" "Who, in your opinion, did the most good as President, and why?" "Give an account of the recent trouble with Chili;" and "Ought one to sign the temperance pledge, and give reasons for your answer."

Well, the eventful night arrived, and everything was in "apple-pie" order. Our parlors are not large but are cozy and pretty and were well lighted; chairs were arranged in groups of two, scattered in different parts of the rooms. Of course it took a few minutes for the exchange of greetings and also for the explanation as to what was to be done.

The cards were then given to the six ladies, each lady having a gentleman partner. When the bell was rung the gentleman and lady at the end of ten minutes, the bell was again rung, the gentlemen then changing partners.

This was done until each gentleman and lady had conversed on each topic.

We then started the balloting, each lady voting for the gentleman she found the most entertaining, and the gentlemen vice versa.

We then started the balloting, each lady voting for the gentleman she found the most entertaining, and the gentlemen vice versa.

The lady and gentlemen receiving the greatest number of votes were presented with two very pretty books; while the two receiving the least votes were awarded "booby prizes," which in this case consisted of two small china matchholders in the shape of crabs.

I may state that all had thoroughly enjoyed themselves in the hour and a half that had elapsed, and when refreshments, consisting of ice cream, cake and lemonade were passed around, (the party being an informal one, the passing around of refreshments was preferable to setting a table), there was no end of merriment.

ment.

After the refreshments, there was a little chatting together and then my guests departed, all assuring me that they had spent a very enjoyable evening and congratulating me on the success of my "Progressive Conversation Party." I am sure that besides the pleasure, many important facts were acquired from the different subjects on our cards. With best wishes, I am, Yours sincerely, Louise.

Now of course, this programmy of tenior.

Now of course this programme of topics can be varied, as you may choose, and I will be greatly pleased to have many more of you send me letters of this sort and very soon I will offer another prize for the same another prize for the same

Charlie D., Versailles, Ky., asks, Is the body guard of the king of Siam composed of women?

Yes, the king of Siam is attended by a body guard composed exclusively of 4,000 of the prettiest women in his realm.

EDMUND H., Parkersburgh, W. Va.

I am greatly pleased to see so many letters asking questions on scientific and mechanical subjects, and trust we will have many more on like topics. Answering your question, a cubic foot of newly fallen snow weighs 51-2 pounds and has about twelve times the bulk of an equal weight of water.

MARY Z. LITTLE, Askland, Wis.

equal weight of water.

Mary Z. Little, Ashland, Wis.

Photography is one of the most interesting and lasting of arts, and next to that of printing, which is the "Art preservative of all arts," is the one now most sought after and studied by the young people. Who does not hear almost every day of some amateur photographer in the neighborhood, getting views and snapshots of everybody and everything, and now in this day of instantaneous photography it has been used to record the movements of the lips in speaking, and by putting the photographs in a zoetrope a deaf mute can easily read the words. words

words.

Mank H. J., Paris, Texas.

Your question is one which has puzzled older heads than yours for many years. I will repeat it here and ask for answers from dilurent parts of the country as to the methods in vogue all over our broad land. It is this, How can I stop the squeaking in a new pair of shoe soles? I know of several good ways but will ask for some replies from the cousins. Send them in for the March number.

some replies from the cousins. Send them in for the March number.

EMMA MAYERS, Tucson, Ariz.

I have asked one of my little girls to tell me about what to say to you in answer to your question as to what is the best stamping outfit to send for. I am sorry you cannot come here and let her go with you up to Morse & Co.'s immense establishment, and pick one out for yourself. She went up there last week, and as soon as the clerk recognized who she was, he showed her some of the finest goods in that line to be found anywhere in the country, and she has given me a description of them, from those at low price to the ones which sell for one dollar. She says they have one called the Kensington outfit which has nearly one hundred patterns on heavy paper, very durable and about two feet long and seven inches wide, which has a nice book of instructions with it for only 12c., which hentitles the purchaser to a three months' subscription to Comport. Then comes the Jewel at 25c., which has powder and poncet, and book and a six months' subscription to Comport. Next the Mammoth with three or four times as many patterns and an instruction book and all new designs, and a whole year's subscription for only 50c., and then the best of all the Prize Medal, with which outfit many ladies are doing a thriving business and earning from \$5.00 to \$10.00 a week, aside from doing their own work. If you want to make money easily send to Morse & Co. for one of them and you are sure to succeed.

Annette W., Mobile, Ala., asks where did the term "Yellow Jack" originate, and why is it

make money easily send to Morse & Co. for one of them and you are sure to succeed.

Annette W., Mobile, Ala., asks where did the term "Yellow Jack" originate, and why is it applied to yellow fever.

Although used as a proper name, it is probable that the original meaning of the appellation was nothing more than yellow flag, a flag being termed a Jack by seamen, and yellow being the color of that customarily displayed from Lazarettos, or naval hospitals, and from vessels in quarantine. It is the common personification of the yellow fever among sailors.

Oliver T. Zeno, St Johns, P. Que., asks the names of the seven hills of Rome, and from what each derived its name. I do not wish to interfere with the good work of the history club, hence for the benefit of the greatest number, I will ask for answers to this question, and will publish the best letter in this column. Let me hear from you now young Latin students in our high schools.

Edgar D., Hutchinson, Kansas.

in our high schools.

Edgar D., Hutchinson, Kansas.

Replying to your question as to the manner of sawing stones into slabs, or plates, French ingenuity has contrived an improved stone cutting saw of remarkable efficiency; it is a circular saw having its edge set with black diamonds in the same way as the straight blades, but as the strain on the diamond is all in one direction the setting can be made much firmer, and the velocity being great the work progresses much more expeditiously than by the former methods.

How can I keep my hands nice? comes from

How can I keep my hands nice? comes from several young friends this month. Dirty and coarse hands are no less the marks of slothfulness and low breeding, than clean and delicate hands are those of cleanliness and gentility. First to promote the softness and whiteness of the hands do not use coarse soaps and often oil the hands with glycerine or vaseline. When the hands are very dirty a little soft soap to thoroughly cleanse them may be used, with warm water, and always rinse the hands well in clear water after using any kind of soap, and be suret odry them thoroughly before exposing them to cold winds. With ordinary care the hands can be kept in good condition even though one must work out of doors.

E. J. J., Viroqua, Wis.

Well you may be proud to say that your Father and Mother were born in the good old State of Maine, for it is certainly a circumstance which can never bring the blush of shame to any honest cheek. In answer to your question for the date of the Dark Day, it was May 19, 1780, and the darkness extended over all New England. In some places the people could not see to read common print. Birds sang their evensong and were silent, fowls went to roost, and candles were lighted in the houses. The darkness came on about ten o'clock in the morning and continued until night. The winds had been variable for several days but had blown chiefly from the southwest and the northeast. The true cause of this remarkable phenomenon is not known.

R. E. A., Puerto Rico.

The Island Bimini is only known in fable and

phenomenon is not known.

R. E. A., Puerto Rico.

The Island Bimini is only known in fable and song, and is said to belong to the Bahama group but lying far out in the ocean, where according to a tradition among the natives of your home was a marvelous fountain, possessing the power of restoring youth. This was an object of long continued quest to the celebrated Spanish navigator, Juan Ponce de Leon.

Happe S. Portsmouth Ohio.

Spanish navigator, Juan Ponce de Leon.
HARRY S., Portsmouth, Ohio.
Yes, Harry, I think it is unlawful to deface any coin or other currency of the country, as it is only supplied us as a circulating medium, and should not be destroyed. For a full description of a battery and dynamo send 50c. to Morse & Co., Augusta, Me., for a book which treats fully on these subjects, called "Electrical instruments and how to make them."

In closing the chat for this month. Levill

cal instruments and how to make them."

In closing the chat for this month, I will again thank you for the interest you have taken in this department, and ask you to have taken in this department, and ask you to have eyes and ears open for a new contest in the February number, which I am positive will interest one and all. And in this one eligibility is not to be confined to any age, the only proviso being that all contestants must be subscribers, and now all who read this and have not already sent in their names and 25c. for a year's subscription to Comport, write the letter to-day, do not be too late, for it will be a good one, and then think of the reading matter and descriptions of the great Columbian exposition which will appear during the year 1892. Good-bye for this time. Your

Uncle Josephus, (Care of Comport.)

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216 Washington St., Jersey City, N. J. Please mention Comfort when you write.

My Strange Patient; or, How a Murder was Revealed.

A STORY FOUNDED ON FACT.

In the summer of 1880 I graduated with the customary honors from the Harvard Medical School and in the fall of the same year, through the influence of a friend, I secured a position on the strff of the Massachusetts General Hospital at Boston. Like all callow disciples of Esculapius, I was an enthusiast in my chosen profession and took great interest in it. The position I had been appointed to was a most desirable one for a young man, being assistant to the professor of nervous diseases; a part for which I was especially fitted having made these disorders the subject of especial study. Thus I was naturally elated at my bright prospects and looked forward to a brilliant career which would surround my humble name with a halo of glory and enroll it among the grand names of a noble calling. Life in a great hospital has many attractions for the thinker and the observer. There are so many strange sights to be seen In the summer of 1880 I graduated with There are so many strange sights to be seen day after day and strange stories told that one could never tire of the varied scenes, especially a student of medicine. After a especially a student of medicine. After a while of course the constant succession of similar occurrences palls a little on the young physician, and the business then becomes to him like any other—a mere daily occupation by which he earns his bread. But it was a long time before I got tired of the business in any way and for a long time the business in any way and for a long time the succession of cases at the hospital had great charms for me and there were few great charms for me and there were few cases—unusual ones, of course, I mean—entering the doors of the institution that I did not examine, if possible. In fact my zeal and enthusiasm made me the butt of good-natured ridicule among my associates in the institution. But of all the strange things I saw while engaged at the heavited things I saw while engaged at the hospital
—and these were many—the strangest was
what I am about to relate.

One day I was seated as usual in my office engaged in my customary duties. My chief was absent, he having a habit of taking a day off occasionally, leaving me to take care of the patients who required our treatment. There were not many that day however, and I was in no danger of being overworked. I had just finished with one patient and turned to the next whom I was surprised to observe was the only one waiting. I regarded this patient with extrordingry interest for he was a most peculiaring. I regarded this patient with extrordinary interest for he was a most peculiar-looking man. He was roughly dressed and evidently of limited resources. His countenance and in fact his whole air was that of a man who had led a troubled life and had seen much of life's seamy side. The stamp of dissipation was plainly impressed the features which were course and restamp of dissipation was plainly impressed on his features, which were coarse and repellent. But the most striking thing about the man was his eyes. Such eyes I never saw before and trust I never shall see again. They were more like the eyes of a madman than anything else. There was a strange stare in them, and they gazed straight at you with a look that seemed to pierce you like a needle. From the brief glance I took at my strange patient I made up my mind that he was not in his right mind and when I opened conversation with him this impression was deepened. After him this impression was deepened. After entering his name and the history of his case on the ledger as was the rule at the hospital, I questioned him regarding his complaint. complaint.
"It's all in my eyes," he said, "my bodily

health is all right; it's only my eyes that are affected."

This was enough for me and I immediately commenced an examination of his eyes. I was not much of an oculist but it needed but a brief inspection to convince me that there was nothing the matter at all with my patient's eyes. I told him so. My words seemed to anger him.

words seemed to anger him.
"It's right here in my eyes," he said, glaring at me in a rage, his troublesome orbs flashing, "right here in my eyes; that terrible picture that I always see before me. It's right here impressed on my eye-balls. I want you to remove it in some manner."

I stared at the man sharply. Was he indeed insane or only drunk? He certainly appeared sober enough and of the two he looked more crazy than intoxicated.

"What do you mean?" I asked. "What sight do you see all the time before you impressed on your eyes?"

"Why, the sight of the woman I mur-dered ten years ago in New York," was his strange answer.

I was now convinced that my peculiar patient was not in his right mind. But I thought I would humor him.

"Are you a murderer?" I asked him.

"Yes, Doctor, I am and I don't care who hears it. I am tired of this life. I am crazed by her ghost haunting me night and day. Oh! Doctor, get that dreadful sight out of my eyes even if you have to cut my eyes out."

"Why, who did you murder?"

"I murdered my wife in a fit of rage and jealousy ten years ago in New York. Curse her I finished her but she is getting her revenge now. Curse her! she is haunting me to death."

"Are you in earnest?"

"Are you in earnest?"

"I am; you may think I am drunk or crazy but I am neither. Listen, and I will make a confession to you, Doctor. Twelve years ago I was a well-to-do merchant, doing a prosperous business in the city of New York. In an evil hour I made the acquaintance of a girl named Marie Sousette. She was a French girl, a milliner by trade, and very handsome. I became deeply smitten by her beauty and proposing marriage to her was accepted. Ah! the beautiful Jezebel would to God I had never seen her. We were married and for a year or two all went well. But soon I found that again, saying that the terrible scene was my wife was a most errant flirt. She delighted to coquette with menandembraced every opportunity to do so, nor did my acting it in imagination over and over again, saying that the terrible scene was impressed on his eyes and forever before his sight. Such is the story of "My Strange Patient."

J. L. M'CARTHY. We were married and for a year or

remonstrances cause her to alter her conduct. But I did not think much of this deeming it mere youthful exuberance which would disappear as my wife grew older and more sensible. But instead of leaving, my wife's weakness increased and she grew fonder than ever of male company. In vain did I remonstrate with her regarding her conduct. She flow into a rage calling her conduct. She flew into a rage, call-ing me such names as 'tyrant' and 'jealous monster' and said that she would never be monster' and said that she would never be tyrannized over by me. Ah! she was a termagent, but I bore with her as patiently as I could, for with all her faults I loved her, my beautiful, weak Marie. I killed her, it is true, but oh! it was by accident—by accident, as God is my judge. Well, things went from bad to worse and Marie's weakness grew more noticeable, added to which she manifested an intolerable temper. At times when her temper was aroused which she manifested an intolerable temper. At times when her temper was aroused she was more like a fiend than a woman. But I was patient with her until that day came, that dark fatal day! It was about a year after our marriage. I came home one afternoon and saw my wife holding a very animated conversation with a male neighbor. They were laughing and joking like two lovers. I did not relish this as you may imagine and I gave Marie a severe lecture. She flew into a terrible rage, calling me a 'Bluebeard' and similar cognomens, and said that no man would be a tyrant over her. She was doing no harm, she said, and I was a jealous and unreasonable monster to be finding fault with her as I did. Well, words borrowed words. I retorted angrily and so did she, until at did. Well, words borrowed words. I retorted angrily and so did she, until at length we had worked ourselves into a raging quarrel. I never knew what a shedevil I had married until that hour. So angry did she become that she rushed upon me and attacked me with the fury of a demon, trying to tear my eyes out. In selfme and attacked me with the fury of a demon, trying to tear my eyes out. In self-defence I grappled with her and threw her to the ground, where she lay as if stunned. She lay so quiet that I examined her and found to my horror that she was dead—killed instantly. She had struck a projecting nail in the floor in falling, and it had penetrated the back of her haad, causing instant death. Oh! that sight—that sight of Marie stretched out dead on the floor, her beautiful head drabbled in blood, has haunted me from that day to this. It has fastened itself into my eyes and I see it continually. I fled at once after the murder to England and from there to France and back again to America. But wherever der to England and from there to France and back again to America. But wherever I went the terrible scene accompanied me. It is the torment of my life and is driving me crazy. I have been skulking about the country ever since, hiding here and there, but I can get no peace, no relief, from that terrible thing in my eyes. I can stand it no longer and I have come here to have it cut out, even if you have to cut my eyes out to do it."

Such was the strang story he related tell-Such was the strang story he related, tell-

Such was the strang story he related, telling it in an earnest, straightforward manner that could not but impress whoever heard it. In vain did I reason with him and point out to him that nothing was wrong with his eyes and that he was only suffering from a delusion. He persisted that he was right, and to settle the matter to our mutual satisfaction I went out of the room to another part of the hospital where the oculist of the institution had his office and brought him to examine the man's eyes. brought him to examine the man's eyes. Dr. Chandler examined them thoroughly, and put them to a number of tests, and as a result, decided that they were the soundest and best pair of eyes he had ever seen. I informed him of the confession the man had made and he was much interested in it. made and he was much interested in it. He tapped his forehead significantly, intimating that it was our patient's brain and not his eyes that was affected. This was my opinion, too, as the reader knows, and we came to the conclusion that the man was insane and ought not to be at large. Accordingly, unknown to him, I despatched a messenger to the nearest police-station for two policemen, who soon arrived and took charge of the man. I told them that he was insane and acquainted them of the confession of murder he had made, which ne was insane and acquainted them of the confession of murder he had made, which caused them to open their eyes with astonishment. Contrary to my expectations the man offered no resistance to the police and was taken away quietly. He probably imagined that they had come to arrest him for the murder he had confessed, and tired of challing continually for few of contract. of skulking continually, for fear of capture, he was quite willing to suffer arrest and be done with his troubles.

Time passed and pressing duties made me forget my strange patient, but some months after, happening to think of it and feeling after, happening to think of it and feeling curious to know what disposal had been made of the case, I wrote to the authorities asking about it. In answer I received a letter stating that communication had been made with the superintendent of the New York police, informing him of the man's story and inquiring into the truth of it. The superintendent wrote back that at the time mentioned—ten years back—a murder time mentioned—ten vears back—a murder had been committed in New York and under the very circumstances as related by the self-confessed murderer. He added the self-confessed murderer. He added that the victim's name before marriage had been Marie Sousette and the murderer's Victor Renzell, the very names my strange patient had given me. The superintendent requested the Boston authorities to hold the man, who was in all probability the escaped murderer, until he could be brought back to New York on a requisition. He was accordingly delivered to the New York police and taken to that city, but before he was accordingly delivered to the New York police and taken to that city, but before he could be placed on trial for his crime, his insanity increased, and he became a raving maniac, necessitating his confinement in an asylum for the insane, where he lingered for several years and then died. From the asylum authorities I learned that he was one of their most violent patients and had to be watched continually for fear that he would work danger to himself or that he would work danger to himself or others. He raved continually of the mur-der, acting it in imagination over and over

SAVED BY A DREAM. A STORY FOR GIRLS.

"Dora." said Mrs. Harper to her errand girl, "have you seen a red pocket-book on the counter? This lady has lost hers and

the counter? This lady has lost hers and she says you have taken it."

Mrs. Harper kept a millinery store in Brookville, a bustling little town in New England, and had quite a large patronage.

Her errand girl, Dora May, was fifteen years old, a neatly-dressed, pleasant-faced girl, who had been employed in the milliner of the course year. She lived with nery store for over a year. She lived with her parents, honest, hard-working people, in a cottage on the outskirts of Brookville and the slender stipend which she carned every week was a great assistance to them. Dora May seemed astounded by her em-

ployer's words. She turned red and then pale, and stared at Mrs. Harper as if fascinated.

"Says I have taken her pocket-book," ex-

cinated.

"Says I have taken her pocket-book," exclaimed the girl, replying to the latter part of her employer's speech, "why, Mrs. Harper, I never saw her pocket-book in my life. The lady is mistaken."

And Dora May flashed an indignant glance at her accuser—a richly-dressed lady, with a handsome, but cold face.

The lady was Mrs. Harwich, wife of Judge Harwich, one of the wealthiest and most prominent men in Brookville. Mrs. Harwich was a grand lady in Brookville; she was beautiful and educated, and a brilliant figure in the social circles of the town. But Mrs. Harwich was colder and prouder than any royal princess, and very ungracious to those whom she considered beneath her. She was also very wilful and impulsive by nature, which tendencies she did not think it worth while to check, and she was greatly disposed to jump at conclusions. She was also selfish and inconsiderate of the feelings of others—qualities which ill-befitted a lady in her position. Mrs. Harwich regarded the girl with a cold, haughty stare.

"I do not think I am mistaken, Miss," she said, "although I have no proof that you took the pocket-book. I laid it down for a moment on the counter near the spot where you were standing at the time, while I was examining some ribbons, and when I

for a moment on the counter near the spow where you were standing at the time, while I was examining some ribbons, and when I went to get it again it had disappeared. I did not take it, nor, of course, did Mrs. Harper; so it must have been you, as there

was no one else here to take it."
"But I did not take it," said Dora, as tears "But I did not take it," said Dora, as tears of mortification sparkled in her eyes. "I don't remember seeing your pocket-book. I was busy at the time wrapping up some bundles and had no opportunity to notice your pocket-book. It must have fallen under the counter and got lost in some oracice."

A likely story," sneered Mrs. Harwich. Mrs. Harper glanced from one to the other in an embarrassed manner. Mrs. Harwich was an excellent customer of hers and she did not like to offend her, but on the other hand she had every confidence in her errand girl and could not believe that she had taken the pocket book

her errand girl and could not believe that she had taken the pocket-book.

"Let us examine under the counter," she said, "and see if we can find it," and so saying both got down on their knees and searched the space beneath the counter, but after trying every empty box and crevice no pocket-book was found nor any trace of

one.

"Of course not," sniffed Mrs. Harwich, when the result of the search was made known to her, "I never supposed you would find it there. That wicked girl has stolen it and invented this silly tale to conceal her theft. I would advise you to discharge her at once."

Mrs. Harper turned to her errand girl

Mrs. Harper turned to her errand girl with a grave expression on her face. "Dora," she said, kindly, "if you have taken this pocket-book confess and I will forgive you." "But I did not take it, Mrs. Harper," again said Dora, indiguantfy. "I did not even see it and how could I have taken it?" But the milliner was beginning to doubt her statement as circumstances were so

But the milliner was beginning to doubt her statement as circumstances were so strongly against her.

"You must have taken it, child," she said, regarding Dora sternly. "As Mrs. Harwich has said there was no one here to take it but you. Produce it at once, you wicked girl, or tell us what you have done with it."

But the girl could only reassert her inno-But the girl could only reassert her inno-cence and repeat that she had never seen the property alluded to. She turned the pocket of her dress inside out and exposed its contents to her employer's gaze to prove that she was telling the truth and had no such thing on her person as a pocket-book. Mrs. Harper's face assumed a blank ex-pression when she saw that the missing property was not in Dora's pocket, and she was disposed to believe her, when a remark from her adult, companion turned the tide

from her adult companion turned the tide. "Oh! of course she has not got it in her pocket," said Mrs. Harwich, "these thieves are so snarp. She has no doubt concented it in some place, waiting until the affair blows over. It does not matter much, however, as there was not much in it. You must excuse me; I will go now and leave you to deal with this perverse girl as you think best?" think best.

And with a parting adieu to Mrs. Harper And with a parting active to hard, market the grand lady swept out of the store, while the milliner, convinced now of her errand girl's dishonesty, and angry with her for denying it, summarily discharged her and sent her home with a smirch on

So poor Dora went home and told her story amid a flood of tears to her parents, who gave her what sympathy they could. Dora's parents were religious people and Dora's parents were religious people and hey cheered their grief-stricken child up, elling her that everything would come out ll right in time. They had entire condence in their daughter and were sure he had done no wrong, and so they felt hat sooner or later justice would be done. So Dora dried her tears and made the best of her position. There was plenty of work o be done around the house and she was not idle.

She expected every day to receive some

"Yes, monsieur, these bank notes, what about them?"
"They were sewed up in the lining of that stole ncloak."
"Oh! heaven," gasped the other, pallid with disappointment, "and I have just sold that very cloak to a ragman."

Having thus "given himself away" to the detective, the latter at once arrested him and after confessing that he had received the stolen garment, it was recovered and the thief captured and punished, together with the skillfully entrapped "fence." who received ten years' penal servitude for his part of the transaction. they cheered their grief-stricken child up, telling her that everything would come out all right in time. They had entire conall right in time. They had entire con-fidence in their daughter and were sure she had done no wrong, and so they felthat sooner or later justice would be done.

So Dora dried her tears and made the best of her position. There was plenty of work to be done around the house and she was

not idle

communication from her late employer, for she had told the truth when she said she had not taken the pocket-book. As a matter of fact Dora had not, as she had said, even seen the pocket-book; but circumstances, as we have seen, were strangely against her and like many another innocent person she had been condemned for a fault of which she was guiltless. But Dora felt that one day the missing property would be found and the stain upon her character removed. She was, therefore, contented in her innocence, and kept a brave heart trusting that time would clear up the mystery.

up the mystery.
But days and weeks passed and Dora heard nothing from her late employer. The latter had secured a new girl in Dora's place and it looked as if our heroine would never again resume her duties there. But she

again resume her duties there. But she kept her courage up and prayed every night that her innocence would yet be established.

Time passed and no answer came to her prayers. The people of Brookville had got wind of the unfortunate affair and when they saw Dora in the street they bent severe glances upon her, which was very painful to her.

However, one day, six months after Dora

painful to her.

However, one day, six months after Dors had so ignominiously been dismissed from her employ, she was amazed to see Mrs. Harper herself coming up the garden walk and when Dora admitted her her amazement was increased when the milliner caught her around the neck and kissing

caught her around the new and her said:

"Oh! Dora, how can you ever forgive me? We found the pocket-book, Dora, but in such a strange way."

And then she went on to say that the missing pocket-book had been found under most peculiar circumstances. It seemed that after she had discharged Dora, Mrs. Harper had taken the affair of the missing pocket-book very much to heart. It puzzled and annoyed her exceedingly. She

that after she had discharged Dora, Mrs. Harper had taken the affair of the missing pocket-book very much to heart. It puzzled and annoyed her exceedingly. She disliked to believe that her errand girl had wronged her and yet she was compelled to believe it, for, as the reader knows, everything pointed to Dora's guilt.

One night through thinking so much on the subject Mrs. Harper had a strangedram. She dreamed that she found the lost pocket-book under the counter in an out-of-the-way crevice near the floor. She did not pay much attention to the dream first, but when she dreamed the very same thing the two succeeding nights she began to think there was something in it. She at once searched under the counter and in the exact spot she had seen in her dream—a spot which had been overlooked when she and Dora searched—she found the missing pocket-book covered with dust.

Convinced now of Dora's innocence and full of remorse for having treated her secons.

Convinced now of Dora's innocence and full of remorse for having treated her so harshly, she at once sought her home to make what amends she could. She apologized profusely and offered to take Doraback, which offer was accepted and Doracesumed her place in the millinery store.

Our heroine and her parents were much gratified by this remarkable turn of affair and looked upon it as the work of Providence.

Judge Harwich's wife when she learned of it also apologized to Dora, and made her a handsome present as a partial atonement for the injustice she had done the girl. Thus Dora May's reputation was "Saved by a Dream."

CLEVERLY CAUGHT.

One night, during the progress of a grand ball at the palace of Louls XVIII, a courtier had a valuable cloak stolen from him, and when the theft became known to the monarch, he was much annoyed at it, especially at the thought that such an occurrence could happen in his palace, under his very nose, as it were, and summoning M. Vidocq, the celebrated detective of Paris, he commissioned him to take the case in hand.

Paris, he commissioned him to take the case in hand.

The detective started out to hunt the thief but not without some hesitation. The case was a rather puzzling one and did not promise ar casy solution. He followed up every clue he could get however, and worked on the case real-ously, but without avail. The thief had covered his tracks too well and for once the shrewd police-agent was nonplussed.

One day, however, an idea struck him and he directed his footsteps toward a well-known second-hand clothing dealer's shop. This individual was well-known to Vidocq. Entering the old fellow's den, who bowed and smirked obsequiously to him, he astounded the latter by saying:

saying:
"You must come with me."
"Why so, monsieur?" the old clothesman stammered in surprise.
"I have a warrant for your arrest."
"For what, monsieur?"
"You are accused of receiving the closk stolen from General X., at the ball at the King's palace, recently."

stolen from General X., at the ball at the King's palace, recently."
"Why, monsieur." exclaimed the clothing dealer in apparently great horror, "it is outrageous of you to make such an accusation against me. My character as an honest man is too well known to be affected by your suspicions. You are doing me a great injustice, and I will complain to the King how you have wronged me. Indeed I will; the King shall hear of this."

wronged me. Indeed I will; the King shall hear of this."

His anger and astonishment were evidently so sincere that Vidocq began to think he had made a mistake, but he continued, this time speaking in a more easy and confidental manner:

"Then you did not buy the stolen cloak?"

"Certainly not, monsieur; I do not trade in stolen articles at all and never did. I am poor, but honest, and it is an outrage for you to charge me with such an offence. Indeed it is, a gross outrage, and the King—"

"Then it is unfortunate," said the wily police-officer, turning as if to leave the place. "There was a fortune in that cloak for both of us."

"A fortune, monsieur?" repeated the clothing dealer, "how so?"

"Why, General X., you know, lately came from Spain, whither he had been on business of the King, bringing with him three thousand francs in bank notes, and these bank notes—"

"Yes, monsieur, these bank notes, what about them?"

"They were sewed up in the lining of the

GUY.



at Mystic Friends:

In eycle has been completed. Old father Time has with his sharpened scythe another blade from the field of time, and we have entered the bright new far of 1892. The blank leaf before us is ready to resive the account of our works for another season, and would that when it is filled we might find it an aprovement on the previous page.

As we look upon the record of "The Mystic Castle" the past, we find many pleasures and joys marking its existence, and, too, while we are cherishing eir fond memories, we have one event presented to s, which brings deep sorrow to our hearts.

God, in His divine wisdom, has seen fit to remove om our midst our beloved and earnest friend, Nelly

om our midst our beloved and earnest Iriend, Nelly ly.

A young and faithful worker in the puzzleistic field, basessing many literary talents, she was widely nown and her productions eagerly sought.

Miss Nellie Babcock, as she was known in every ay life was a young lady of estimable qualities, and her death a great loss is sustained by a large circle relatives and friends. After a severe illness of phoid fever, death came to her relief, and the pains and aches of this life were laid aside for that better fe which awaits the faithful ones in the world belond. Death occurred Sept. 2, 1891. The heartfelt sympathy of "Our Mystic Band" is extended to the ereaved relatives and friends in the great loss which hey have sustained.

It is intended to make "The Mystic Castle" much etter this year than it has been, and in this effort we ope that the mystic friends will aid, by making their work as free from mistakes as possible and obeying the instructions mentioned from time to time. Never strice with lead pencil, always sign right name and address as well as nom deptume, write on one side of speer, only, and address all communications conserring "The Mystic Castle" to Oldcastle, Comfort, tica, N. T.

Oldcastle wishes to thank Ophir very much for his ikeness, which was received in due time, and hopes hat many more of his Mystic Friends will follow phir's example, that his photograph album of lystic Friends may be completely filled.

Attention is called to the "Gold Medal Tournament" announced below. Here is a chance for our polvers. Who will come out ahead? Hope all will ry their best to reach the top round of the solver's adder, which truly is a difficult one to mount. We fill have contests in different lines of puzzleistic ork this year, and hope they will be entertaining and instructive to our readers. Is there any special ontest you would like to have tried in "The Mystic jastle"? If so, let Oldcastle know and he will conider your request, and if it be a good one, will act pon it.

Puzzles have been received from: Bennie Factor, it Alaxa, 9; Guy, 5; Venus, 3; Frank C, 3; Apache, sittle Do Nothing, Roland, G. Whizz and Phil, 2; Hanc, Robert Davis, Ilex, Katie Gallagher, Bitter sweet, W. H. S., James Brooks, Florine and Blackyed Charley one each.

Solvers to Oct. "Mysters" are as follows:—Comietes:—Doc. Eglantine, Hercules, Essay and P. A. time, II each. Incompletes:—Mrs. Fanny White, anny, Waldemer, Regono, Delian, 10; Mollie E. tarkey, 9; Ypsie, Frank and Mrs. G. P. C, 8; Katie reen and Hi A. Watha, 7; Cal I. Fornia, Columbia, F. B., Florine and Marion Stevens, 6; Roland, Mrs. C. C. Haskell, Ben Net and Remardo, 5; Ajax and Lay, 4; Agricola, 3; Old Woman, Remlap and Bill Irp, 2; Apache and Dick Grover, I.

Prize-Winners:—I. Doc. 2. Egla

ales.
Specials:—1. Waldemar. 2. Regono. 3. Delian.
Dear Mystic Friends, let us take all the pleasure
te can this year from the "Mysteries" and aim to
take them both entertaining and instructive.
Hoping to hear from many new recruits and to have
ne older ones renew their interest, I now close my
hat, and with carpet-bag in one hand and staff in
the other start for home.
Your dear old Mystic Friend, OLDCASTLE.

GOLD MEDAL TOURNAMENT.

GOLD MEDAL TOURNAMENT.

To the solver making the best record in "The Myse Castle" during the six months commencing Jan., 192, and ending July, 1892, will be awarded A Gold Godal, suitably inscribed and bearing winner's name. The medal will be of 10-karat gold, of artistic shape and finely ornamented. Dear solvers commence now ad be earnest in your endeavors to win this beautification MEDAL. The usual prizes for solving will be offered as hitherto.

Each contestant muss be a subscriber to Comport, off you want to join this Tourney and have not yet of your contestant muss be a subscriber to Comport do so at once. You will have no lause for regret. The result will be announced and edal awarded in August, 1892.

SOLUTIONS TO OCTOBER MYSTERIES.

No 227. "Order is heaven's first law."
No. 228. "O, what a tangled web we weave, when ist we practice to deceive."
No. 229. Youandi { R. O. Chester. Eugene. }
No. 230. M-ORION, E-LARSE, L-UMBER, A-SLOPE, -ARROW, C-RAVEN, T-RAVEL, H-ANGER, O-RALLY, AUGHT—MELANOTHON.
No. 231. Apple. No. 232. Load-stone. No. 233. ever-the-less.

ever-the No. 234. No. 235.

SYNTAX YEARLY NAVALS TRAJET ALLEGE XYSTER

TRADER REGALES AGATES DATIVE ELEVEN RESENT

No. 236. Calash—alash—alas—ash. No. 224. Innocence. (Inn—no—sense.)

MYSTERIES. No. 266. Numerical.

A 1, 8, 17, 18, 10, 2, 6 is a nobleman.

A 7, 4, 6, 14, 15, 21, 2 is a yellowish spot on the skin.

To 12, 20, 5, 17, 21, 2 is to refresh.

A 16, 13, 18, 19 is a peasant.

The 4, 3, 9 is the colite.

My WHOLE, consisting of 21 letters, is a noted musili composer. l composer. Ridgefield, Ills.

No. 267. Numerical.

The 18, 5, 22, 11, 2, 26, 41, 29 is one newly received into the church.

The 12, 17, 20, 19, 28, 42, 33 is one whose errors are

doctrinal.

The 8, 37, 43, 39, 3 is to flatter.

The 82, 6, 10, 23, 44, 1 is thrown or spread out ostentatiously.

The 14, 34, 7, 25, 4, 40 is a nap in the afternoon.

The 21, 38, 24, 31, 9 is a mask.

The 21, 38, 24, 31, 9 is a mask.

The 16, 40, 30 is the hind part of the knee.

The whole, composed of 44 letters, is a quotation from Daniel Robinson.

Belfast, Me.,

No. 268. Palindrome.

A word of one syllable easy and short.

A word of one syllable, easy and short,
Reads backward and forward the same,
It expresses the sentiment warm from the heart,
And to beauty lays principal claim.

Tower City, Pa.,
OMA.

No. 269. Anagram.

HO! AM TRYING A PEG.

All those who are in wHOLE expert,

Will find this riddle plain;

Their well-trained minds they will exert,

And quickly they'll explain.

Embden. Me.,

No. 270. Separe.

No. 270. Square. No. 270. Square.

1. A native sailor of the East Indies. 2. To fine.
3. Small rolls of tobacco used for smoking. 4. A neck-cloth. 5. To make crazy. 6. To force back against the current.

Ardmore, Pa.,

No. 271. Square.

A book of institutes.
 More expeditious.
 One who takes for granted.
 To puzzle.
 Crests on coats of arms.
 To choose again.
 Stops.
 ARTHUR.

No. 272. Charade. The busy bee, from early morn 'Till evening shades fall o'er the corn, From flower to flower, with wing so fleet, By first adds to its store of sweet. The lad of eight of times will say To his companions while at play, "I'll be a SECOND someday, then I will see the world like other men. "I will travel far o'er land and sea,
And captain of a THIRD will be.
The whole shall be the very best,
And then I'm sure 'twill stand the test."
Pasadena, California,
No. 273. Hour Glass.

Across. 1. To refine and exalt. 2. Afflictive. 3. Directly. 4. Bitter vetch. 5. A letter. 6. Chief or commander. 7. A dolt. 8. A socialist. 9. An extinct Indian tribe of N. Y. State.
Upper left to lower right—Machines for drawing flax.

Upper left to tone right—An English reformer and martyr of the 14th century.

Centrals, down—Dyed before manufactured.

Worcester, Mass.,

Doc.

No. 274. Half Square. No. 274. Half Square.

1. A letter. 2. A small coin. 3. A kind of stuff. 4. Standing still. 5. Rosy, (obs.) 6. Powerful. 7. A red color. 8. One who resents. 9. Those who are sorry for sin.

San Francisco, Cal., J. C. M.

No. 275. Letter enigma.

No. 275. Letter enigma.

In the "candy," for a treat,
In the "honey," that's so sweet:
In the "money," that we're earning,
In the "fashion," that is turning;
In the "honesty" of men,
In the "praise," that's due to them.
In the "fruits and flowers" that please,
Total's found in all of these.

Green's Landing, Me.,

No. 276. Double Letter Enigma.

In "magic" wonders.

THINKER.

No. 26. Double Letter Enigma.

In "magic" wonders,
In "hasty" blunders;
In "grassy" bowers,
In "pretty" flowers;
In "fertile" regions;
In "countless" legions;
My WHOLE, often seen in days of old,
Still yet, with your eyes, you may behold.
Wataga, Ills.,
OL OLD PETE.

No. 277. Oblique Diamond.

No. 277. Oblique Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. An African antelope. 3. A frame on which clothes are dried. 4. Gowns. 5. A collection of papers, etc. 6. A kind of divination anciently practiced by means of marked arrows. 7. Loosens. 8. That which supplies strength. 9. Turkish arrows. 10. A letter.

Bennett, Nebr., Hercules.

No. 278. Diamond.

1. A letter from New York. 2. A surplice. 3. A tree. 4. A genus of birds. 5. Comes once a month. 6. A Venetian coin. 7. Old musical instruments. 8. Relatives, (abbr.) 9. A letter from Maine. Firth, Nebr.,

No. 279. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. To draw form. 3. A bird of Levich.

No. 779. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. To draw from. 3. A kind of Jewish habit. 4. Played on a small drum. 5. Small musical instruments. 6. A kind of Galvanic battery. 7. The geometrical sum of all the sides of a body. 8. An indicator. 9. To prevent. 10. Three-fourths of a Scripture proper name. 11. A letter.

Albany, N. Y.,

No. 280. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. To beat. 3. Heads. 4. Official documents conferring a right or privilege on some person or party. 5. A small sail used under a studdingsail. 6. A worm. 7. In a personal manner. 8. Of old. 9. Foolish. 10. A meadow. 11. A letter. Poultney, Vt., GUARDINEER.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

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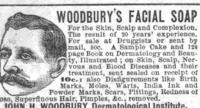
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THE SOUIRE'S DAUGHTER-IN-LAW.

BY MARLTON DOWNING

The court had convened, but there was no prisoner present, neither were there any great legal luminaries on hand to expound the intricate and mystifying points of Blackstone, yet the party gathered together were deeply interested in the case which was about to be brought before them, for they were all either judges or witnesses, and most of the latter aspired to the high dignity of the former.

This unique tribunal self-appointed by the

This unique tribunal, self-appointed, by the way, consisted of the greater portion of the matrons and elderly maidens of a little village that nestled quietly amid the Berkshire Hills of New England.

"I declare, if it isn't just awful! And to think we, respectable people, have been associating with that Martha Preston! Even sitting beside her in meeting, all this time, and she, such a shameless hussy! Why, it makes me shiver!"

And the horeign of the state of t

beside her in meeting, all this time, and she, such a shameless hussy! Why, it makes me shiver!"

And the horrified spinster raised her two hands in air, while she rolled her cat-like eyes toward the smoky ceiling of Farmer Carter's kitchen in which the indignant females had met for the purpose (not openly avowed, however) of tearing to pieces the character of one of their neighbors, the lovely daughter of Widow Preston.

"I quite agree with you, Maria Jane," returned Mehitable Jones. "Why, she is a great deal worse than Bessy Watson, who you remember, two years ago last harvest was in trouble. She had consideration enough upon us to leave the place and go to Boston where nobody knew her and consequently no one need blush when they met her on the road."

"But this creature," interrupted Farmer Carter's wife, "is brazen enough to stay here and defy us to our very faces. I, for one, am shocked."

"So am I! So am I. So am !!" chimed in her listeners in chorus.

"But whose name is mentioned in connection with Martha's?" inquired a squeaky voice in the chimney-corner.

"Ah, there, Jerushy," replied Maria Blackburn, who seemed to be the leading spirit among these gossips, "you've asked a question that might be hard to answer, for to my certain knowledge there's been more'n one name, but tiey do say," and here the malicious voice of the speaker dropped to a whisper, "they do say Squire Tucker's son! Oh, if that ain't just too awful! Who would believe it?" exclaimed the croaking maid by the fireside. "And his father, what a nice man! His wife, only dead one year last grass," and a heavy sigh escaped from the bosom of the antiquated female to whom the tender passion was supposed to be a stranger.

"The squire away in foreign parts too! It will bring his gray hairs in sorrow to the grave,"

whom the tender passion was supposed to be a stranger.

"The squire away in foreign parts too! It will bring his gray hairs in sorrow to the grave," responded Mehitable Jones, as she essayed to brush some moisture from the glasses of the silver-rimmed spectacles which rested upon her aquiline nose.

"When do they expect the squire back?" asked Farmer Carter's wife, who though mistress of the establishment was by no means mistress of ceremonies.

"I heard Parson Brown say last Sabbath that he was coming some time this week," answered one who had heretofore remained silent.

"Then I will tell you what we ought to do! It is our duty," declared Maria Jane Blackburn, with great decision. "That is, we will call upon Squire Tucker just as soon as he gets home and tell him how things have been going here in the village since he has been gone."

"Poor man! But who is going to be the one to send the shaft that will pierce his already wounded and bleeding heart?" inquired the lackadasical Jerusha, (who also essayed to be poetic.)

"As I said," quickly rejoined Maria Jane, "it

lackadasical Jerusha, (who also cosayou poetic.)

"As I said," quickly rejoined Maria Jane, "it was a duty, and a painful one. If there is no other who will undertake the task I will perform it," and the elderly spinster drew herself up with an air of Spartan-like determination, and glared fiercely around upon her listeners.

A slight pause ensued, then Mehitable Jones asked:

A slight pause ensued, then Membaok asked:

"Now don't you think, Maria, that some of us should wait upon Martha Preston and request her for the sake of the morals of the community to leave the village?"

"Most assuredly! Most assuredly!" was the unanimous reply, for all seemed ready and anxious to humiliate the young woman in question.

question.

"I think there is no better time than the present, so we'll all go at once to the widow's house," and as though the matter was settled, Mehitable Jones tied the green strings to her sunbonnet, repinned the red mantilla about her angular shoulders and was prepared to start forth upon her officious mission.

THE NEW YEAR . >> How many men who have a calendar of the year hanging beside their desks—how many of the people who can't keep house without an almanac-know that about 300 years ago a house without an almanacknow that about 300 years ago a very important change was made in our reckoning of time? Up to the time of Julius Cæsar, the Romans divided the year into 10 months, of very unequal lengths. One of the chief purposes of a calendar is to mark a fixed date as a beginning of a year, and to do this, it should be always at the same distance from the spring and fall equinoxes. In the time of Cæsar, the science of astronomy was not very exact, and the small error of 11 minutes in the length of the year was made. In the sixteenth century the churchmen, who had a great many religic us festivals, found that whereas the equinox was on March 25 when the Julian calendar was made, in 1582 it had fallen back to March 11. The great festival of the church, Easter, was thus getting back into the winter. Pope Gregory XIII came to the rescue, and after consultation with the learned of the day, issued, in October, 1582, a brief by which the date was arbitrarily advanced 10 days—and that is our present calendar. Russia, under the Greek church, did not follow this, and still keeps the old style. MATERIAL STREET 1/5 HILBOOM NY

The cottage of Widow Preston stood upon the outskirts of the village, near the edge of a beautiful green meadow, through which a crystal brook wended its way to be lost in the river that in turn would be swallowed up by the vast waters of the ocean.

Over the door and before the windows climbed roses and honeysuckles and the entire place possessed an air of homelike comfort.

As the party of mischief-makers sallied forth to carry dismay and consternation to this

As the party of infestion to carry dismay and consternation to this peaceful abode of mother and daughter, a horse and carriage drew up before the gate and the occupants of the vehicle, Squire Tucker and his son Edward, alight the

The latter hitched the animal's head to a post and both entered the house as if they were sure

of a welcome

In the cosy little parlor Mrs. Preston, her daughter Martha, and Rev. Mr. Brown, the tender, benevolent, spiritual leader of the town wars senten

As the visitors appeared, the trio rose to their feet but when Martha saw who it was that ac-companied the young man, it seemed as though she essayed to shrink back to avoid observa-

she essayed to shrink back to avoid observa-tion.

If such had been her intention it was frus-trated by Edward's springing forward and clasping her in his arms while he exclaimed:

"See, Martha, father has not been in town"

fifteen minutes but he has come to offer you his greeting."

infiteen minutes but he has come to offer you his greeting."
"Yes, my daughter," remarked the squire in a cordial voice, grasping the trembling hand of the young woman. "I bestow upon you both my blessing. The letters of Edward which reached me when abroad were so full of praises of your beauty and character that I am prepared to love you. Although I could hardly realize that the little Martha Preston whom I remembered as a school-grin when I went and

Tom Tucker's Two Mashes.

A STORY OF IRISH DESCENT.

If there was one man in Cloverville who believed himself to be the personification of everything that was physically beautiful and mentally marvellous, who considered his person as irresistibly charming as his wit was brilliant, that man was Tom Tucker. He was one of those remarkable individuals who imagine that the world and its inhabitants were created for their sole and particular benefit, whose features convey by their expression, an insufferable degree of pride, and whose exaggerated ideas of their own importance in the community frequently get them into ridiculous scrapes.

Tom dressed well and looked well—for he was of athletic build and had a decent allowance from his father to foot his tailor's bills. This was fortunate, inasmuch as he possessed all the instincts of a dude, and sported a new suit every other week. It was not simply for the sake of appearing well among his fellows that Tom dressed so lavishly. He had an idea in common with the rest of his class that the fair sex are more effectively caught by a fashionable coat than by a proof of character, so he arrayed himself daily in garments affected by those dudes, of whom an irreverent poet has said:

"Not even Solomon in his glory was arrayed as one of these,"

see, no creases in their overcoats nor bags upon

of these, "There's no creases in their overcoats nor bags upon their knees."

Tom loved the fair sex without reserve—after his fashion, that is, he delighted to flirt with every girl he met, more particularly if she was pretty.

There was a new schoolma'am came to Cloverville and Tom heard a report that she was a perfect beauty and had quite a graceful figure. So our hero made it his business to promenade the vicinity of the schoolhouse every afternoon in order to catch a glimpse of her. It was several days however before his patience was rewarded.

He saw a queenly form emerge from the schoolagte and walk rapidly in his direction. He put on his very best look and smiled benignly on the young lady as she passed him. But the girl took no notice whatever of him until she had gone nearly half a block, when she very injudiciously turned her head.



"HURRAH!" EXCLAIMED TOM, "I HAVE GOT A MASH!"

He watched her furtively for fear others might observe him. Right between them was an Irish laborer filling his hod with bricks and commencing to climb the ladder in front of a building in course of erection. Tom glanced around. Nobody else appeared to be watching and as the pretty little school ma'am continued to look back now and again, Mr. Tucker resolved on following her. Carelessly sucking the head of his cane, he sauntered after her in a leisurely way.

leisurely way.

What feelings of pride and vanity filled his head as he contemplated the conquest he was about to make! The girl was evidently smitten by his aristocratic appearance and magnificent figure. She would be glad to make his acquaintance, and how the rest of the fellows in town would regard him with envy. This pretty girl—



"GREAT SCOTT!" EXCLAIMED TOM, "HERE'S ANOTHER MASH!"

MASH!"

His train of thought had been suddenly interrupted as he passed in front of the ladder, by the rapid descent of the Irishman, hod, bricks and all! A weak round in the ladder had snapped, and precipitated Paddy and his load to the sidewalk below, but Tom had kindly, but unconsciously, intervened his person and received the Hibernian's crushing weight upon the crown of his fashionable derby.

In that brief second Mr. Tucker saw more stars than he ever thought were in the heavens, but through the brilliant constellation he perceived the face of the pretty young schoolma'am laughing at him in the distance. His ideas of conquest were ended. In more senses than one he felt crushed, and as he turned to the prostrate Irishman, who was bewailing the loss of his black clay pipe in mournful tones, he had a sudden desire to kill him then and there.

But all his wrath on Paddy was wasted, for the Milesian simply answered by asking a question: "Didn't yez know it was unlucky to walk under a laddher?"

Gentlemen:—You may want to know who H. Birney is. I am an old farmer, 60 years of age. I have not been able to work on the farm or do a day's labor for 18 years. You sent me one ablet last spring wrapped up in a circular. The circular told me what the tablet was for, so I thought I would try a box and if I was sold I would be a wiser man.

Before, I could not do an hour's labor, now I can plow all day or do any common labor, and I am now placing the food among my neighbors. I have several orders for Oxien to-day and nothing to fill them with, so I enclose fifteen dollars for an assorted lot. I received the five dollar lot and it is all sold.

I will devote my time now to selling the food and making old folks young. If any one wishes to get a sample of this food and circular explaining its use write to Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Me. Yourstruly,

H. Eirney, Seward, Nebr.

COURAGE.

The day was cold and dreary The rain was falling fast, A fog hung over the hillside, A light snow covered the grass.

Perched on a leafless maple, A flock of little brown birds Sang the sweetest, merriest carol, That ever my ear had heard.

As they sang in the rainfall A lesson came with the song; Rainy days last not forever Sunshine will follow the storm.

After winter comes springtime, After darkness comes dawn; April showers bring the May blossoms Sunshine will follow the storm.

Meet misfortune with courage, Lighten life's burdens with song; Some time the clouds will be lifted, Sunshine will follow the storm. RUEL A BANCKS.

The Squire's Daughter-in-law.

CONTINUED FROM 17th PAGE.

The Squire's Daughter-in-law.

CONTINUED FROM 17th PAGE.

"I could have wished," observed Squire Tucker, "that Ned had waited until my return so that I might have been present at the wedding, but as I found that I was compelled to remain away much longer than I had expected, I did as you know give my willing consent to have the marriage take place."

Scarcely had the father finished speaking when a leud and peremptory knock was heard, and Mrs. Preston hurried to open the door.

When the members of the Court of Indignation (for it was they) entered, a look of astonishment was stamped upon every face!

Maria Jane was the first to recover her self-possession. Extending her hand toward the great man of the place she said:

"Squire Tucker, I am glad to see you, and ampleased that you have considered it your duty, on the first moment of your arriving home, to call here and reprimand this—this—woman," indicating Martha with a sniff of contempt, "whom we have cause to know has striven to lead your son astray."

"And Mrs. Preston," interrupted Mehitable Jones, "we have called here to request you to find some retreat for your daughter, as we do not wish to be contaminated by her presence in the village!"

The first effect of the words of the two spinsters was profound surprise which quickly gave place to righteous indignation.

"Oh, you vipers!" exclaimed the young husband. "You evil and corrupt vixens! Would that you were men, every one of you, that I might tear those lying and slanderous tongues from your throats and fling them into your miserable faces! Out of my sight! Or I shall forget that you are attired in the garb of women and thrash you as you deserve!"

"Peace, my son, peace," interposed the squire. "Our neighbors apparently do not understand the condition of affairs. My friends, this young lady," taking his daughter-in-law by the hand, "has not been Martha Preston for nearly a year, but Mrs. Edward Tucker, the beloved wife of my dear son!"

"Land sakes alive!" exclaimed Jerusha Stebbins in surprise. "And we'v

oblige us greatly if you'll mind your own business."

"Dear sisters," said the minister, speaking for the first time. "It grieves me greatly that you felt called upon to pass judgment on the actions of a fellow-creature, least of all one of your own sex who, even had she been misguided, should have found a refuge and kindly sympathy in you rather than words of censure and contumely! Remember the words of the Scripture to 'Judge not, lest ye be judged,' and 'Cast out the beam from thine own eye,' then you may see the mote in your brother's eye."

then you may see the mote in your brother eye."

At this rebuke the chagrined and crest-fallen mischief-makers stammered forth a few words of apology and then one by one they left the cottage and returned to their homes, having received a lesson which it is safe to say they will never forget.

The squire's mansion now seemed to possess an additional ray of sunshine, for the loving wife of Edward and the noble, Christian Mrs. Preston combined to make the great house cheerful and rendered the lives of its generous owner and his manly son happy for many years.

Advice to Young Girls.

If sickness plunges you in grief, If doctors give you no relief, Just take a friend's advice—'tis brief

If weakness causes you to faint, Or suffering from a girl's complaint, To place both under quick restraint— Try Oxien!

you're hardworked and daily feel A languor o'er you often steal, A weariness you can't conceal—

Try Should dizziness your head attack, Or pains that make it fit to crack, If rest and sleep you nightly lack—

If roses from your cheeks have fled, And left them ghastly pale instead, If loss of beauty you should dread— Try Oxien!

If in your mirror you behold You're growing prematurely old, The remedy is quickly told— Try Oxien!

If women's ailments you endure, Your poet-friend can now assure You of a most unfailing cure— Try Oxien!

No animal that walks on four legs is as big a fool as a sheep, according to a sheep-raiser, who says:

"We have to watch them every minute, and if vigilance is relaxed for an instant the entire flock is likely to practically commit suicide. If caught in a storm on the plains they will drift before the wind and die of cold and exposure rather than move one hundred yards to windward to obtain shelter in their corral. To drive sheep against the wind is absolutely impossible. I once lost over one thousand head because I could not drive them to a corral not two hundred feet away. In the corral they are still more foolish. If a storm comes up they all move 'down wind,' until stopped by the fence. Then begins the proceeding so much dreaded by sheepmen, known as 'piling.' The sheep will climb over each other's backs until they are heaped up ten feet high. Of course, all those at the bottom are smothered. Not one has sense enough to seek shelter under the lee of the fence, as a horse or a dog would do. Again, if a sheep gets into a quicksand, its fate teaches nothing to those that come immediately after, but the whole flock will follow its leader to destruction. No more exasperatingly stupid brute than a sheep walks."

Harriet Beecher Stowe said:
"When you get into a tight place, and everything goes against you till it seems as if you could not hold on a minute longer, never give up then, for that's just the place and time that the tide



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The blue bird.

THE DIFITIOND COLLECTION OF SONGS Over 600 Songs, and Every One a Gem. Words and Music Complete.

THIS BOOK IS A VERITABLE TREASURY OF THE WORLD'S POPULAR SONGS.

"The Finest Collection of Songs, both new and old, ever bound between the covers of one book."—N. Y. World.

Jim along Josie. My country.
Jim crack corn. Miss Wrinkle.
Johny Sank. Maggie's secret.
John Sank. Maggie's secret.
Juanita.
Juanita.
Killarney. Mollie Bawn.
Killarney. Mollie Bawn. First love. CONTENTS:
Ah, how death.
Anvil chorus.
Ah, my words.
A sailor's love.
A love song. CONTEXTS:
All haw de many and the second of Forget nie not. Faribaldi hymn. Firls and Boys. Files Scroggins. Filderoy. Jim crack corn.
Johnny Sands.
Jack Katlin.
Juanita.
Killarney.
Kitty Tyrrell.
Kathleen Aroon.
Last night.
Lord Lovell.
Lullaby. Bonny boat.
Bob up serenely.
Blue eyed Mary.
Brave Wolfe.
Bachelor's fare

old Jee.
Old Jee.
Old Pee Dee.
Old King Crow.
Oh, Arabella.
Poor old maids.
Pesky Ike.
Paddy Snap.

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MORSE & CO... Augusta, Maine.

MY DEAR FRIENDS:
A new year has dawned upon us, with all its hopes and possibilities. Another year of suffering, perhaps some of you will say in a moment of discouragement. Yes, and another year in which to do God's will, and have His blessed purposes fulfilled in our lives. And who knows but what in these coming days, before the Christmas tide shall come again, the gates may swing wide open, and the longed for release come to some suffering, prinioned soul? This year, too, may bring the time when your discipline shall be complete, and do will restore you to health and strength again. Whatever comes, Our Father knows best, and we will rest on that, believing in His love. "God hath bound thy trouble upon thee, with a desire to try thee, and with purposes to reward and crown thee. These cords thou canst not break; and therefore lie thou down gently, and suffer the Hand of God to do what He pleases."

and with purposes to reward and crown ince. These cords thou canst not break; and therefore lie thou down gently, and suffer the Hand of God to do what He pleases."

"Consider this, my first letter, as a timid plea for admittance to what I am sure must be a very happy family. I may more clearly define my position wheu I say that I am a 'Shut In'; one who has not been one hundred yards from the table at which he writes this letter for nearly one year. When this is said you will concede the fact that I am indeed a 'Shut In'. I must commend the delicate and feeling way that Southern Girl deals with the sentiments of those heroes who wore both the blue and the gray. 'Tis a subject that older (I will not say wiser) heads have handled with less conservatism. May I also add a word concerning Moon of Leaves? I am greatly pleased with the tone and general wording of her letter. Methinks she must be quite a brilliant conversationalist and if not deemed presumptive would ask that she exchange a letter with me through the medium of our dear Aunt Minerva, and give me the origin of her nom de plume. I will be adjudged a self-appointed critique if I don't desist and show other reasons for this writing. I am pleased to enclose subscription to your sparkling little journal and hope for, and am sure, that many a dreary and lonely hour will be cheered by perusing the bright messages from my several cousins. Your dutiful nephew,

"I want to help all that need, for I can fully sympathize with them, as I have been an invalid for near 14 years, up to two years ago, a 'Shut In,' but am thankful to say my general health the past two years has been better, that I can sometimes get to church and Sabbath-school. I live in the country a mile from the church, and 5 miles from P.O. I see much for and against novels. I am an old woman, 60 years old, I must own, I enjoy reading some novels. I read out to my children, or have done so, over since I have been an invalid, and try to have such as will benefit and not injure. Some do not approve of

37

I

such. MIDDLE GEORGIA."

If children never read anything worse than 'Grimm's Fairy Tales,' they will not be likely to become very much depraved. I could never see any harm in fairy tales, and agree with you in thinking them safe and pleasant reading for children.

Grimm's Fairy Tales, 'they will not be likely to become very much deprayed. I could never see any harm in fairy tales, and agree with you in thinking them safe and pleasant reading for children.

Dear Auntie and Cousins:—We get Comport regularly now, and I, for one, am glad you've given us a separate column, so we may not disturb a few who dislike an invalid's monotonous ways. I say a few because a great many, I think nearly all, enjoy an occasional chat with us, for quite well do I recall the peaceful hours derived through God's spirit, from my visits and chats with the paupers, and more particularly, when I think of one poor boy on his dying couch, whom, in my humble efforts, I had tried to instruct before he became ill. Although the kindness has been "Only a cup of cold water in His name," how good we feel for having given it. Ah, yes, "Their works do follow them always"—sin, or righteousness, and gives us peace, or uneasiness of mind. Dozens of letters of true sympathy have been written me from the cousins, and it has cheered me very much indeed; write again, cousins, let me hear from all. Auntie, the intent of this letter is to thank every one for their letters, papers, etc.

"I am some stronger now, and we are being blessed in many ways. Please allow me a brief chat with some of my invalid sisters, who say, 'reading the Bible and religious literature keeps them sad, always thinking of death,' etc. Dear cousins, this good, 'holy Bible, book divine.' is more comfort than you know of, if accompanied by God's Spirit. I can sympathize with you, I didn't use to love it, and its readings always, as you say, suggested the thoughts of death; but I am thankful now for such blessed reminders, yet so gentle and comforting in their golden pages, pointing out the way of salvation, and escape from everlasting, yes, never-ending torment which we are sure to come to, if kept out of mind as well as God, in this world. If you cannot read much, like myself, send for a neighbor's 'little chatterbox,' she may play about on the

Auntie and asking for a little comfort through the columns of our paper, don't you think you are a little too hard? I do. Does not the great book of books tell us, "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you," and is that doing as you would like to be done by? You would not like for one of your friends, when you began to tell them something, rise up and leave you. Oh no, that would hurt your feelings. Don't you suppose these poor sick people who are deprived of the sweets of life have some feeling too? You do not know what pleasure the sympathy and kindness of others give to those poor afflicted ones, or you would not want them to stand back and look on. I would be pleased to hear from any of the cousins who wish to lend a helping hand to the needy. May you all enjoy health and happiness is the sincere wish of your cousin, "Will some one who has books to spare good stories, poems or any good reading) and would like to send comfort to a poor invalid on a lonely farm in Dak, please direct to me and I will see that she gets them safely. Mrs. LIDA JAYNES, Wesley, S. Dak."

Dear Aunt Minerva:—May I write a few lines to the dear suffering "Shut Ins" and cousins? Although to one of your family as a member, yet the bond of sympathy unites me to you. Having been an invalid of 4 years I know and can understand their feelings. Lone Star's letter and M. V. I. Merriel's remarks have made me feel as if I should like to say a few words. Please, dear ones, do not let any of the lonely ones know you do not wish for their tales of woe and trials and tribulations. You may be depriving some of their one comfort by so doing. Have you ever known what a joy it is to a lonely suffering heart to confide in one whom she knows has sympathy for her? Have we not suffered that we might be able to understand how to sympathize with other suffering

nes, and how can we do so when we do not know their feelings, and how can we know their feelings if they do not tell them to us. Would Jesus turn away and say, "I have suffered myself, tell me something more pleasant and diverting than this." No! He says, "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest." He was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, that He might be able to enter into the feelings of each one as they come to Him for comfort and rest. How true it is there are very few in good health who have much sympathy or know how to sympathize, and to a suffering one the thought that "no one cares" makes the burden harder to bear than the actual pain. Ask yourselves these questions, and do as Jesus would do. "Bear ye one another's burdens," and so fulfill the law of Christ, I pray God's richest blessings on you and your work and may you and the large family "as the beloved of the Lord dwell in safety by him. Yours in loving sympathy,

Miss Rebecca E. SMITH, 424 Lincoln Ave., Walnut Hills, Cincinnati, O. "If you please, I will take my seat right here in this corner set apart for 'Shut Ins' only; and how nice to be all by ourselves. Although I am not entirely shut in now, I do not have the privilege of doing as I once did. I was confined to my bed 3 years with spinal disease and if I had not practiced just what Maria Jones preaches, I would not be writing to you. But the dear Saviour had yet a work for me to do, and spared my life. My favorite physicians were Dr. Diet, Dr. Quiet and Dr. Merryman. I feel so grateful to be able to walk again, that I say with every step, 'Oh praise the Lord, praise Him all ye people." In sickness and trouble we should always maintain a cheerfulness just as far as we can.

A. L. PORTER, So. Monterey, Mich."

"All round the year the trusting soul May find the word of promise whole;

"All round the year the trusting soul
May find the word of promise whole;
The flight of time, unknown above,
Breaks not our Father's boundless love.
Unbroken be the tranquil light
That folds our lesser sphere,
As ever pure, and calm, and bright
All round the year."

Names of those needing help and sympathy:
Fannie Nelson, New Salem, Rink Co., Texas,
Miss Emily M. Wheaton, North Branford, Conn.
A. A. Norton, Odin, Ills.
Mrs. Eveline Fay, 405 No. 5th St., East Saginaw,
tich.

Mattie L. Martin, Frederick, Ga. Madison L. Nash, Tyro, Miss.

With kind wishes and loving thoughts.

AUNT MINERVA, (Care of COMFORT.)



NEW YORK BY GASLIGHT.

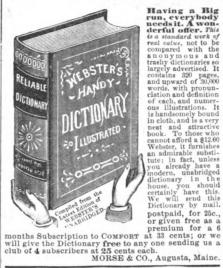
THE CRIMES OF A GREAT CITY.—WHAT THE MATRON DOES AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS FOR THE FEMALE PRISONERS.

The Crimes of a Great City.—What the Matron Does at Police Headquarters for the Female Prisoners.

Until recently all the female prisoners in New York have been received and attended to by men. But a recent enactment has provided an improvement by adding a female inspector to the regular force. When it is considered that many of the female prisoners reach the station house under the influence of liquor and that every prisoner must be searched before going to a cell, the propriety of such an office is at once apparent and the wonder is that it was not instituted long ago. The arrests among women are not all confined to outcasts but include many who, while not within the pale of reputable society, are still somewhat above that class, to say nothing of the numerous instances where the prisoners are merely suspects and who cannot be properly included among the criminal class till their guilt is proven. There are occasional instances also of visiting females indulging somewhat too freely in the cup that cheers, and landing quite unexpectedly in a station house. These cases are not so rare as one might suppose nor are their victims particularly criminal. There is also a department for lodging homeless women, and of course they are necessarily under some inspection. The "lodging" cannot be called either comfortable or luxurious, the extent of the provision merely affording a bare plank on which to sleep. Some of these unfortunates come to the lodging room with a good dram inside taken to keep out the cold. In the heat of the room this soon has an effect and it is not an unfrequent occurrence to have a full fledged riot in progress before the night is over. It is horrible to consider how dreadfully exposed some of these women are and to what stress the matron is put to sew their clothing so that they will be respectable when they reach court. When they are injured or sick they are taken matron is put to sew their crothing so that they will be respectable when they reach court. When they are injured or sick they are taken to a private room and no one goes near them but the matron and the surgeon.



It is hard to understand why the police oppose the appointment of matrons, but they do. It is possibly because they have become so disgusted with their experiences that they have no time for useless sentiment; but the matron is a useful institution and she has probably come to stay.



Having a Big run, everybody needs it. A won-derful offer. This is a standard work of real value, not to be compared with the anonymous and trashy dictionaries so trashy dictionaries so largely advertised. It contains 320 pages, and upward of 30,000 words, with pronun-ciation and definition of each, and numer-ous illustrations. It is handsomely bound neat and attractive book. To those who cannot afford a \$12.00 Webster, it furnishes an admirable substi-

FALSE MUSTACHES, Goatees, Beards and Side Whiskers.

Fun for the Million!



Here you are, boys. Just the thing for a little harmless MASQUERADING. These mustaches are made of the best material. GENUINE HAIR, NICELY CRIMPED. They have a wire attachment, allowing them to be fastened to or removed from the face with ease, and when worn cannot be easily told firm the real production of razor and soop. Boys and young men can have LOTS OF FUN by putting them

ished at the sudden transhed to the face with wax, and the and the sudden transhed to the face with wax, and the sudden s

Price of mustaches 7 cents each; four for 25 cents; goatees 5 cents each; four for 15 cents; one dozen for 60 cents, mailed postpaid.

FALSE BEARDS AND SIDE WHISKERS.

FALSE BEARDS AND SIDE WHISKERS.
There is nothing that will so completely change one's appearance as a false beard. A boy can be Instantly transformed into a middle-aged man, that even his parents would fail to recognize. We have two styles, "PULL BEARDS" and "SIBE WHISKERS WITH MUSTACHE," as shown in illustrations They are suitable for masquerading parties, private the Atricals, tableaus, parlor entertainments, etc.
They can be easily adjusted to or removed from the face and young men can have any amount of fun by putting them on at Evening parties or elsewhere. The transformation is wonderful and we guarantee that the wearer of one of our beards will not be recognized by his nearers of one of our beards will not be recognized by his nearers friends or relatives. They are made from good material. nicely crimped, which gives them a wavy, natural appearance. We have a fall assortment of colors, white, Gray, Red, Light brown, and Black. In ordering send a small lock of hair, or state color of beard desired. Price of FULL BEARD, as shown in cut, 60 of beard desired. Price of FULL BEARD, as shown in cut, 60 cents; price of side whiskers with MUSTACHE, 60 cents; four of either for \$2.00, sent by mail postpaid. Address four of either for \$2.00, sent by mail postpaid.



o keep their nose clean anyhow. We got these soft, dur-pretty articles for a GRAND PREMIUM OFFER. Send z. I'l 2 yearly subscribers for "Comfort" at 25c. cach, and we doz, free, or for 8 subs. we send 6 hdks.; for 4 subs., 2 hdks.; 1 hdk. Will sell a sample hdk, for 12c., 3 for 30c., 1 doz., on't miss this bargain. MORSE & CO., Augusta, Me.

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MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



COMPARISON DESIRED.

COMPETITION DEFIED.

We wish it distinctly understood that we give you just what you expect to get, and we will at once refund price paid to any one-who is in any way dissatisfied with this great bargain.



expect to get, and we will at once refund price paid to any one who is in any way dissatisfied with this great bargain.

Is a collection of English, Irish, Scotch and American Songs and Ballads, including Ethiopian and College, Sentimental and Comic, Sacred and Operatic, all with music complete, for voice and operation of the part of

Cucksoo, The.
Barney from Kildare.
Bine bells of Scotland.
Campbells are coming.
Campbells are coming.
Campbells are coming.
Camptown bornapie.
Can you keeped.
Can you keeped

For this month only

Dashing white sergean Dick Sand's hornpipe.
Don't drink, to-night.
Douglass' hornpipe.
Electric light galop.
Fisher's hornpipe.
Flowers of Property of the pro

Larry O'gaff. Perplexity or gaff. Perplexity or gaff. Perplexity or gaff. Perplexity of gaff. Perplexity of gaff. Perplexity or gaff. Perplexity of gaff. Perplexity o

| Six-hand re Last rose of summer. Light in the window. Maid in pump-room. Minnie Foster's clog. Newport or Narranga Oh, you little darling

Soft music is stealing.

Flowers of Edinburgh.
Fra Diavolo quickstep.
Fra Diavolo quickstep.
Fra Wilson's clog.
We will send this lot of music free to each new yearly 25 cent subscriber to Comport.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



The Millionaires of New York.

JAY GOULD.

HOW THE GREAT AMERICAN FINANCIER LIVES.-HIS DAILY WORK, AND HOW HE HAS AMASSED HIS FORTUNE.

FORTUNE.

Jay Gould, the great king of Wall Street, whose fame has filled both the old world and the new, is not a remarkable person so far as his personal appearance is concerned. There is none of the striking individuality in his face that was so prominent a feature of the late Henry Ward Beecher, and but for the intense interest that surrounds his every movement, he would attract but little attention in the hurrying throngs that surge to and fro in the vicinity of Wall and Broad Streets, where stands amid a perfect network of telegraph wires the building of the New York Stock Exchange.

He is considerably undersized, probably not more than 5 feet, 5 inches, and is a light delicately built man. He is in the neighborhood of five and fifty, and his once dark hair is strongly marked with gray. A heavy beard covering the lower part of his face gives him a look of muscular strength that is greatly deceiving, for his weight is not much over 120 ibs. The top of his head however, shows where his real strength les; the forehead being wide and deep, the top of the skull showing an area that accounts for the wonderful brain underneath. A straight nose

if he doesn't, that more fortunes are lost in a day in Wall Street than are made in a year. And in the nature of things it must be so. In no other business would men engage without previous knowledge except in speculating. And when they fail they cry fraud, and call men like Gould thieves, robbers and pillagers. As a matter of fact, Mr. Gould has but little to do with the control of the market, and has all he can do to manage his own vast interests.

Statements purporting to come from Mr. Gould regarding the state of the market can invariably be put down as false. He rarely divulges his plans, and is notoriously a silent man. In fact so marked is this habit, that few men are seen in conversation with Mr. Gould on his daily ride to and from his home in Irvington, and bitter experience has taught him that his lightest remark is liable to be misconstrued, and he is exceedingly careful in his conversation even with his intimates.

Mr. Gould's home—the one that is really his home—overlooks the beautiful Hudson and is situated in the charming village of Irvington, the home of Washington Irving, and the scene of Major Andre's capture during the Revolution. All around the vicinity are historical associations and romantic memories. His home is almost feudal in its aspect, standing as it does on a high bank commanding a view of the Hudson, its famous palisades and its picturesque highlands.

Around the Gould's house are spacious grounds given to the cultivation of rare and beautiful flowers.

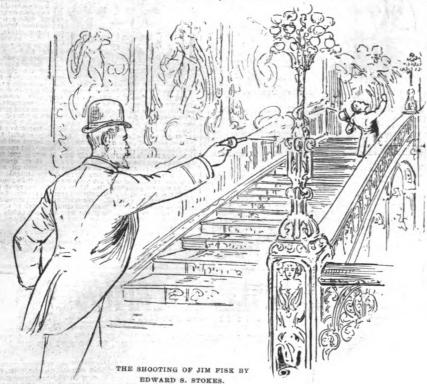
lands.

Around the Gould's house are spacious grounds given to the cultivation of rare and beautiful flowers.

Mr. Gould's green houses are famous even in this region of magnificent horticultural possessions. This is Mr. Gould's hobby, and during the lifetime of Mrs. Gould, much of his time was spent with her in the development of their floral treasures. The green houses are open at all times to visitors, and are rarely without appreciative spectators. The house itself is built of white granite and resembles an old



time baronial castle. It was built at an enormous cost by a banker who went down in the mad whirl of Wall Street, and came into the hands of Mr. Gould at merely a nominal figure. It is quietly but expensively furnished, and has an air of quiet comfort throughout, Mr. Cyrus W. Field is a neighbor of Mr. Gould's, as is Mr. John D. Rockefeller of Standard Oil fame. Although Mr. Gould's means are ample he has never, like the Vanderbilts, had any social aspirations. His home life is one of the most



somewhat larger than usual, and a pair of piercing black eyes complete the picture of a man who in the short time he has spent in life has probably attracted more attention, and has caused more discussion than almost any other man in this country, with possibly the exception of General Grant. Like Grant he has the same stolid demeanor in the face of trying situations. Nothing seems to ruffle the calm impenetrable manner that marks the great financier. I remember on one occasion he called for the footing of a certain account. The book-keeper gave the figures only to discover a few moments later that his calculations were \$100,000 out of the way, and Mr. Gould had left the office! By good luck the clerk over took him in the office of his favorite broker with a slouch hat drawn over his eyes and his feet perched on a railing. "I made a mistake, Mr. Gould," panted the clerk, "the amount should have been \$100,000



less." Mr. Gould merely nodded his head, but otherwise gave no sign that the blunder might have cost him what to us would be a great fortune.

Probably few men have suffered so much from the misrepresentations of misguided speculators as Jay Gould. There is no possible excuse for the misfortunes that befall the unwary in Wall Street. No where in the world are the pitfalls so numerous or the traps so dangerous. Every min ought to know,

simple and unpretentious imaginable; during his wife's lifetime he found his sole recreation in her society. No scandal has ever touched Mr. Gould's domestic life, though his association with the notorious Jim Fiske exposed him to many temptations, but through it all he emerged with a spotless reputation. In the death of his wife two years ago he suffered an irreparable loss, and has never been the same man since. Many stories are told of his wife's unselfish devotion to him, and during all the exciting scenes through which he has passed she was always by his side to soothe his tired nerves and give him renewed strength and courage. Mobs have been before the Gould mansion in New York, and crowds of infuriated men have besieged his office in Wall St. The only sign of nervousness he ever gave was a violent headache, which his wife was wont to drive away with gentle ministrations.

of nervousness he ever gave was a violent headache, which his wife was wont to drive away with gentle ministrations.

Mr. Gould's family at present consists of his daughter Nellie, who is now a young lady, his son Edward and his married son George, with the latter's two sons. It is related of Miss Nellie Gould while on a visit to the Treasury at Washington that the custodian unaware of his visitor's identity handed her a package containing a million dollars, and seemed to enjoy her apparent pleasure. "When you go home," said he, "you can brag to your friends that you had as much as a million dollars in your hand at one time," As her father is worth a hundred times that amount the experience was not so novel as the worthy custodian imagined.

In the winter Mr. Gould removes to New York, but the first sign of spring sees him back to his country home. Almost any afternoon he may be encountered on the local train that runs to Tarrytown. On the whole Mr. Gould cannot be considered a happy man. "He that multiplieth riches multiplieth cares," says the Good Book, and Mr. Gould is no exception. He cannot find pleasure in society so much is he stared at, and his every word, no matter how commonplace, is eagerly seized and commented upon. If by any hook or crook it can be construed as to having any commercial significance, the opportunity is immediately seized upon, much to the regret of people acting thus hastily, as it frequently happens. As no man likes to be the innocent cause of suffering Mr. Gould is perforce obliged to seek his own counsel, and the pleasure that is derived from contact with one's fellowmen is in a great measure denied to the richest man in the world.

The next "Man of Millions" to be sketched in Comport's series, will be that gentleman renowned for his benovelence and charity, John D. Rockefeller, of Standard Oil Co. fame, and followed each month by others of no less consequence in the business world.

PARAGON, Indiana, Oct. 12, 1891.
I can recommend to the suffering world that Oxien is all that it claims to be. I have used it for nine months for throat and lung trouble. I was a sufferer for five years. Now I can say I am almost a well man.

ANDREW L. HALE.



A WHOLE TABLE-LOAD OF FUN



WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.
This Weather Warning will faithfully forecast the weather for the ensuing 24 hours, so that you can get your own weather report without waiting for the newspapers to tell you what the weather report is to be. It is a cyclone warning. When the weather is going to be wet, a fine noble dog arises from his kennel back in the distance, and approaches the opening (see illustration above), giving a signal that there is a storm sproaching, and as the storm subsides, or if it will be over during the next 24 hours, a butterfly in all its splendor appears to tell you that sunshine is a thand, to gladden the hearts of mankind. The butterfly and the dog are made of metal in handsome colors. The front is handsomely decorated with fancy designs and figures. In the centre stands an accurate thermometer; the whole thing being so simple that a child will understand it at once. When the devastating hurricane, when the devastating hurricane, when the devastating hurricane, the sum of the standard of all once. When the devastating hurricane, the standard is at once. When the devastating hurricane, the sum of the standard is at once. When the devastating hurricane, the sum of the standard is at once. When the devastating hurricane, the sum of the s WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.



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2 Crescent of Wild Roses and Ends.

2 Crescent of Wild Roses and Ends.

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4 Design Lady's Bust 5 inches high.

4 Design Lady's Bust 5 inches high.

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8 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

8 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches wide.

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9 Design For fannel skirt 4 inches wide.

10 Untime Design Man "ye olden time."

10 utline Design Man "ye olden time."

10 utline Design Scoot. Brother,

10 Butterfly. (Scoot. Brother,

10 Butterfly.

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Design Pansies 6 inches high.
Design Pond Lilies 5x6 inches.

Cluster Fuchsias 4x10 inches.

Corner Design Fuchsias and Lilies of Chicken. (the Valley 7x7 inches.

Half Wreath Wild Roses and Buds Interfer. [6x8] inches.

I Chicken. (The Valley 7x7 inches.)
I Half Wreath Wild Roses and Buds
I Butterffy. [6x6 inches.]
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I Large Rose Bud. [Horsesnoe.]
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1 Poppy Design.
1 Bunch Forget-me-nots.
2 Sprays Daisies 4 in. high.
1 Design of Buttercup.
1 Design of Buttercup.
1 Design of Buttercup.
1 Design of Buttercup.
1 Design of Dog.
1 Large Rose Bud.
1 Mushroom 4 inches high.
1 Design of Dog.
1 Cluster of Roses.
2 Daisy Designs.
1 Clover Design 10 in. high.
2 Designs for Pen Wipers.
1 Braiding Design 1½ inch.
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2 Butterflies.
2 Butterflies.
2 Butterflies.
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1 Outline Design of Girl 8 inches high.
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1 Outline Design Girl 5 inches high.
1 Outline Design Girl 5 inches high.
1 Design Rose Buds and Leaves.
1 Spray Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.
1 Design Rose Buds and Leaves.
1 Spray Hoase Girl 8 inches high.
1 Design Rose Buds and Leaves.
1 Spray Bosse With Buds and Leaves.
1 Spray Pansies 4½ inches high.
1 Design Rose Buds and Leaves.
1 Spray Pansies 4½ inches high.
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1 Design Tiger Lily 6 inches high.

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Rabbit's Head.
Design Snowball.
Design for Silk Embroidery
Design Violet. [2 in. wide.
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Spray Sunnac 4 inches high.
Pencock's Feather.
Bunch Cherries.
Calla Lily 4 inches high.
Design Pansy 3 inches high.
Design Leaf.
Design Horse.
Design May Flowers 3xi in.
Design May Flowers 3xi in.
Design May Flowers 3xi in.
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Dromedary's Head.
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Clover Design 4 inches high.
Tiger's Ilead, etc., etc., etc.
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But St. Valentine's Day—that day sacred to those who love—that day in which so many lovers have told of their worship, came near. He would take advantage of its coming, he told himself. So, although he was not a poet, he sat himself down and wrote a little verse in which he spoke proudly of his love and his hopes, and only hinted at his fears. It was a simple thing; but his heart was in it. Then he took the piece of cardboard upon which he had copied it and had it prettily decorated that it might he a worthy messenger.

Howard Ross was not much afraid that his affection was not returned and it was with happy confidence that he went on the evening of the day after St. Valentine's Day to call upon Katharine Benham. She was in; but she received him coldly. He could not mistake the meaning of her manner, he thought, and he was hurt and crushed. He found it difficult to say anything of greater importance than that the weather was fine or that he thought that it might soon rain. She talked but little, too. After a silence which had continued until it was almost embarrassing she said suddenly: "Yesterday was St. Valentine's Day."

"Yes," he assented.

"And I received such a lot of valentines," she went on. "Shall I show them to you? They may amuse you."

She had received a great many and as she brought them to him he took them and looked them over hastily. Some were handsome ones, sent in decorated boxes, while some were simpler. These all spoke of the admiration their senders had for her. Some few were funny or meant to be humorous. It was evident that Katharine was a favorite of St. Valentine. His own was not among the number.

"These are not all," he said as he reached the last one.

"Those are all I care to notice or ever to see again," she returned with angry vehemence.

own was not among the number.

"These are not all," he said as he reached the last one.

"Those are all I care to notice or ever to see again," she returned with angry vehemence.

He thought he understood. He rose abruptly and with a muttered "Goodbye," he left the room and the house.

His pride was outraged. He could not quarrel with her that she had declined his proffered love; that was her privilege. If she did not love him it was right that she should tell him so, or that she should show him that she did not. But he did not know why she should have shown him in such an angry way that she was offended; he did not know why she should have been offended at all.

Howard Ross would have been wiser had he sought from Katharine a frank explanation, but he was very angry. It may be that it would have been more creditable to him had he been less willing to take a dismissal and to think himself defeated; but Katharine's manner told him enough, he thought. A man who would persevere after such a rebuff he would think lacking in self-respect. He would give no woman any unwished-for love. It was ended.

He wearily picked up a book which he had read with great delight only a few months ago and read with a sigh the following lines:

My heart is chilled and my pulse is slow,
But often and often will memory go

My heart is chilled and my pulse is slow, But often and often will memory go Like a blind child lost in a waste of snow, Back to the days when I loved you so, The beautiful long ago!

My heart is heavy, my heart is old, And that proves dross which I counted gold. I watch no longer your curtains fold, The window is dark and the night is cold, And the story forever told!

CHAPTER II A STRANGE DISCOVERY.

A STRANGE DISCOVERY.

The dearest hope of Howard Ross was killed; but he was resolute and strong and he would not yield to despair. It would be his fate, he felt, to go on loving Katharine Benham forever. He could not help that, nor did he wish to. Life promised to be very empty for him; but he was determined to make the best he could of it.

He threw himself, heart and soul, into the business into which he had entered on his return from the country the autumn before. He worked hard, his one immediate hope being to find himself at bed time so fatigued that he would at once fall into deep and dreamless sleep.

he went on through all the spring. He So he went on through all the spring. He prospered, as one must who worked as he worked and when summer came he would have been well able to take another long vacation; to the could not bear to even think of being in the country. That would have been torture. The long hot summer days found him always at his desk, and the succeeding fall and the winter came and there was no change. He had forgotten nothing. Katharlne Benham was as dear to him as ever. Whatever other success had come to him, he had not succeeded in making himself long less for her and her companionship.

He was strong, and his hard work and close application had had no bad effect upon his health. Sometimes he wished it would. Sometimes he felt that he would be glad if he could only fall asleep and sleep until his heart was cold.

The winter grew old. St. Valentine's Day

only fall asleep and sleep until his heart was cold.

The winter grew old. St. Valentine's Day was coming soon again. When the calendar told him this he smiled a little sadly as he realized how differently he looked forward to it. A year before he had been all hope; now he was dread. The day would be full of bitter memories and regret for him.

To his annoyance business became very dull. He would have been glad to work even harder; but it was not to be. Then he decided to have some desirable alterations made in his office. He had carpenters called in. Desks were moved; partitions were torn down. His own heavy desk had not been moved for many a day. He stood idly by as the workmen removed the partition against which it had stood. There between the side of the desk and the wooden wall were some papers. These were handed to him. Most of them were unimportant; but his heart gave a leap as he saw one of them.

It was a large and now dirt-stained envelope addressed in his own hand, writing to Mathe.

was a large and now dirt-stained enve addressed in his own hand-writing to Katha-rine Benham. With trembling hands he opened it, and there was his valentine of a year before. And to-morrow was St. Valentine's Day come

it, and there was his valentine or a year some again!

With heart so full that he could scarcely breathe he sat down where he could and wrote a little note in which he told how his valentine had been lost; but that now he sent it and the little verse would say for him then what he would have been glad to have it say the year before or at any time.

In the morning—St. Valentine's Day morning—he received a valentine. It had but one word; but that was the sweetest he had ever read.

"Come!" it said.

Then when he called upon Katharine she told him, how the year before she had received valentines from her friends and her acquaintances and from people she cared for not at all; but from him, for whom she cared so much, nothing had come at all. She was disappointed, and then she was angry because some one had sent her a cruel one laughing at her love. That was the one she did not show him. Then he had left her so abruptly, and for a year she too had been very unhappy.

"But we will make it all up to one another in the years to come," he said, and as he kissed her she repeated these words from an old song:

"My true love hat my heart and I have his.

"My true love hath my heart and I have his, By just exchange one to the other given. I hold his dear, and mine he cannot miss; There never was a better bargain driven. My true love hath my heart and I have his."

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SOME NOTES ON FEBRUARY.

SUGGESTED BY OUR TITLE PAGE.

The fourteenth of February is the day devoted to that patron saint of lovers, St., Valentine. The origin of this amelent custom comes to us from England where St. Valentine's day is observed with every greater enthusiasm than here. Valentine's many noble trails of the saint of

people, and it must have taken a stout little heart to face that angry parent and say as George said, "Father I cannot tell a lie. I did it with my little hatchet."
The truthfulness and manly courage of the little fellow touched the father's heart, and all his anger vanished, "Come to my arms, my boy," he exclaimed, "I would rather lose a thousand cherry trees than have you tell a lie!"
The place is still pointed out on the Rappahanock where Washington is alleged to have thrown a dollar clear across a distance of nearly half a mile. "Inpossible," remarked one of our recent distinguished French visitors, who was here at the time of the York town Celebration, "it seems impossible that the young man could have thrown a dollar so far as that." "Not at all," replied Senator Evarts, to whom the remark was addressed, "Your Grace must know that a dollar in those days would go further than it does now." It is questionable whether the subtleties of an American joke are appreciated by a foreigner.
Washington was always a strict disciplinarian, and a great stickler for promptness. Yet be fell a victim to Cupid and was guilty of the unpardonable sin of keeping a company awaiting his arrival. Stopping for a few moments at the home of the Widow Custis, he ordered his negro servant to hold his horse till he should reappear. The moments sped along on only the wings a lover knows, and soon the darkey became uneasy. There was no help for it, and though the snow by that time had nearly covered both horse and rider the servant dared not call his master. When at length Washington came out, he was ready to box the poor negro for his failure to remind him of the time. No amount of explanation could relieve the young man's embarrassment, and he suffered all manner of chaff from the guest who divined the cause of his detention throughout the balance of the evening.

A visit to his old home in Mount Vernon last summer did more to acquaint me with the sweet simplicity of Washington's home life than any book I have ever read. There was the

lovely view, and the quiet rotomac washington with tance. I could well imagine how Washington with his calm, reflective nature could enjoy the quaint old hymns that were played at eventide. From the portice one can almost see the spire of the church in Alexandria where the family attended divine service. The white porcelain name plate is still affixed to the creaking door, and the little wooden church remains the same.

The twenty-second day of February therefore will go down in history as one of the days on which a great heart came into the world. The work of Washington will yet engulf the monarchies of the old world. The doctrine of the divine right of Kings is slowly but surely disappearing before the Declaration of Independence.

pendence.

February is a great month even if it is a short one.
Good goods generally come in small packages.

FREE VALENTINES.

We have some sweet pretty valentines which we are giving away to all who would like to take Comport on trial for the next three months. They are the regular cupids darts made up with Lace and Lithograph work, and we also include an assortment of comics. Send 6c. for trial subscription and we mail valentine package free. Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine.

Blind Luck A game in which a child dumbfounds the mathematician, Buy IT! Sent postpaid for 10 cents. P. O. BOX 2846, NEW YORK.



DEAR COUSINS:
Would you have me go begging for recipes?
I'm sure you wouldn't, but really I fear that I shall have to do so before long, if some one is not more liberal. Please don't forget your cousin, even if she is more domestic and stayat-home than Aunt Minerva or Busy Bee.
Now I will see what the copy drawer has for us this month. It looks rather empty, but perhaps I am deceived in' its appearance. And first of all, here is a fine lot of receipts from an old contributor.

ORANGE MERINGUE.

Slice 6 peeled oranges in a dish and pour over 1 pint of milk boiled with 1-2 cup of sugar and 2 tablespoonfuls of cornstarch, allowed to cool. Make meringue of the whites of 3 eggs beaten stiff and brown in oven.

HARRISON CAKE.

1 cup of sour milk, 2 cups of molasses, 1 cup of brown sugar, 1 cup of raisins, 1 cup of currants, 1-2 cup of butter, 1 teaspoonful of cloves, 1 1-2 teaspoonfuls of sods, enough flour to have dough stiff enough to drop off spoon; bake in 3 or 4 layers, icing between flavored with vanilla.

CRYSTALLIZED POP CORN.

Put into an iron kettle 1 tablespoon of water and 1 teacupful of sugar; boil until ready to candy, then throw in 3 qts. of nicely popped corn. Stir briskly until the candy is evenly distributed over the corn. Set the kettle from the fire and stir until it is cooled a little. Then every grain will be separate and crystallized. Care must be taken not to have the stove too hot, lest the corn will be scorched.

CORN MEAL PUDDING OR PONE.

1 cup of wheat flour, 1 egg, 1 spoonful of lard,
1 of sugar, 2 teaspoonfuls salt, 1 of soda; mix
with 1 quart buttermilk, add corn meal.

1 cup of sugar, 3 tablespoonfuls of butter, 1 cup of sweet milk, 2 cups of flour, 2 teaspoons of baking powder.

of baking powder.

NUT CAKE.

2 1-2 cups of sugar, 1 cup butter, 1 cup of sweet milk, 4 cups of flour, 3 eggs, whites and yolks beaten separately, 3 teaspoons of baking powder mixed in the flour.

For between Layers.—Whites of 2 eggs, 1 tablespoonful of powdered sugar to an egg, 1 cup of chopped hickory nuts or any other preferred nuts; frost the top with plain frosting and lay on whole nuts.

BUTTER TAFEY.

1 cup of sugar, 1-2 cup water, 1 teaspoonful molasses, butter the size of an egg, 2 teaspoonfuls of vinegar.

ICE CREAM CANDY.

1 cup of sugar, 1-3 cup of water, 1-4 teaspoonful cream tartar, butter size of an egg; boil all together 15 minutes. not stirring till taken from the fire, then add extract whatever preferred.

Miss L. G. GRAMM, Cordelia, Penn.

Here are some answers to Cousin Pearl's re-

If Cousin Pearl will add the juice of one lemon to each pint of peach juice she will find that the acid destroys the ropy nature of the peach and produces a sparkling and fine flavored jelly.

Mrs. A. H. GOTTSCHALL, 210 Hummel St., Harrisburg, Pa.

Cousin Pearl wishes a recipe for

Graham Bearl.

Graham Bread.

4 heaping cups of graham flour, I teaspoonful of salt, 1-2 coffee cup of molasses, I heaping teaspoonful saleratus, this last must be dissolved in a little hot water, this liquid must be stirred into the molasses until it foams well, pour it on the meal, and enough milk (or milk and water) to make the dough as stiff as cake mixture; put in two pans and bake until done.

Annie I. Crandall, Milton Junction, Wisc.

Now let us see what else we can find among

Now let us see what else we can find among the letters.

Cousin Ceres:—I send you a recipe for the benefit of Comport cousins.

benefit of Comfort cousins.

ECONOMICAL CAKE.

1 cup sugar, 1-2 cup butter, whites of 3 eggs,
1-2 cup sweet milk. 2 cups flour, 1 heaping teaspoonful baking powder; bake in two layers in
a hot oven.

FROSTING.—Yolks of 3 eggs. 1 cup pulverized
sugar, 1 teaspoonful vanilla; beat 20 minutes
and spread between the layers and on top.

ADA SAMPSON.

Dear Cousin Ceres:—I have seen so many recipes and such nice ones, I thought I would send you a good recipe for

BENTON CAKES.

1 qt. flour, 5 ounces butter, 2 teaspoons best baking powder, wet with water and make a soft dough as for biscuit, roll very thin and cut round; bake in hot oven 10 or 15 minutes.

Here is another recipe for

Take 2 cups yellow corn meal, sift, and put 1 teaspoon salt in meal, pour on boiling water until it is in a stiff mass, let cool, add 1 tablespoon butter, I cup flour, enough water to mix rather stiff; bake on hot griddle.

Jennie A. M.

I will send a cake recipe where the yolks of the eggs are used for frosting, for the benefit of Magnolia May.

LEMON PUDDING.

1 quart sweet milk, 1 pint bread crumbs, 1 cup sugar, a lump butter size of an egg, yolks of 4 eggs, grated rind of 1 lemon; bake 1-2 hour, then take whites of the eggs, 1 cup sugar and the juice of the lemon. Beat the whites until stiff, add the sugar and lemon juice, spread it on the pudding, place in the oven 3 minutes to brown. LEMON PUDDING.

Noodles.

2 eggs, butter size of a walnut, 3 tablespoons or cream, flour enough to make a rather stiff dough; knead, roll out very thin and cut in narrow strips; cook 1-2 hour or less.

cookies.

2 cups of sugar, 1 cup sour milk or cream, 1 cup shortening, 1-2 butter and 1-2 lard, 1 teaspoon soda.

CREAM CAKE.

CREAM CAKE.

2 cups flour, 1 cup of sugar, 1-2 cup butter, 2-3 cup sweet milk, 2 eggs, 2 teaspoons baking powder; put whipped cream between layers. I would like for you to send me a recipe for making pie crust of lard, flour and water, how much of each to take. Comfort's Friend.

Perhaps the cousins would like a nice recipe for

CREAM CAKES. Put in a stewpan I cup water, 1-2 cup butter, when boiling add 1 cup flour, stir in briskly. Take from the stove and cool and then add 3 eggs lightly beaten, stir until smooth. Drop on buttered tins and bake in a quick oven about 20 minutes. This makes I2 cakes.

LULA M. ROBERTS, Milton, N. H.

1 egg, 1 cup of sugar, 1 cup sweet milk, 1-4 cup butter, melted, 2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder.

BUTTERMILK PIE One cup sugar.1 teaspoon butter, beat to-gether, 1 egg, 1 cup flour, 1 cup buttermilk, flavor with lemon; bake with under crust only.

ICING FOR CAKES.

Take the white of 1 egg, beat to a froth, add 2-3 cup of white sugar and beat till smooth; put on the cake while warm, flavor if you wish.

SARAH E. HESS, Central, Pa.

FRUIT JELLY CAKE.

2 cups of sugar, 2-3 of a cup of butter, the same of sweet milk, 4 eggs, 3 cups of flour, 3 teaspoonfuls of baking powder, stir together then divide into 3 equal parts; into one part stir 1 tablespoon of molasses, 1 cup of chopped raisins, 1 teaspoonful of cloves, 1 of cinnamon, and 1 nutmeg; bake, put together with jelly or frosting.

and I nutmeg; bake, put together with jelly or frosting.

PORK CAKE.

I cup of salt pork, I cup dried apples, I cup of raisins, I cup molasses, 2 cups of sugar, 3 eggs, I tablespoonful of soda, spice to taste. Chop the pork and raisins together, add I cup of water.

MILK MUFFINS.

I cup of milk, 3 eggs, I tablespoonful of butter, I 1-2 teaspoonfuls baking powder, flour enough to make the batter a little thicker than for pancakes; bake in a quick oven.

LEMON CAKE.

I cup of butter (packed), 2 scant cups of sugar, 10 eggs—yolks and whites beaten separately—one small cup of milk, juice and rind of a lemon, I small teaspoonful of soda, flour to make tolerably thin batter (a little over 3 cups.)

COTTAGE PUDDING.

make tolerably thin batter (a little over 3 cups.)

COTTAGE PUDDING.

1 cup of sugar, 1 tablespoonful of butter, 2 eggs, 1 cup sweet milk, 3 cups flour, 1-2 teaspoonful of soda, 1 teaspoonful of cream tartar, sifted with the flour, 1 teaspoonful of salt; rub the butter and sugar together, beat in the yolks, then the milk and soda, the salt, and the beaten whites alternately with the flour. Bake in a buttered mould; turn out upon a dish; cut in slices; eat with liquid sauce. PANSY.

GOOD YEAST RAISING.

Boil a handful of hops in 2 quarts of water 10 minutes, then strain and add 6 good sized potatoes (grated), 1 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon of salt, sometimes I put a spoonful of ginger in also. Let the potatoes and hop water simmer 1-2 hour, when lukewarm, add 1 cup of good yeast, let it rise. This is the best recipe I have ever tried for making jug yeast. It should be kept in a cool place.

SUGAR COOKIES.

SUBSCRIBER.

SUBSCRIBER.

SUBSCRIBER.

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SU

I thank all who have sent recipes, and would be grateful for a few more good ones, plainly written. Yours in the kitchen, COUSIN CERES, (Care of COMPORT.)

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for NervousDebility and all NervousComplaints Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noyes, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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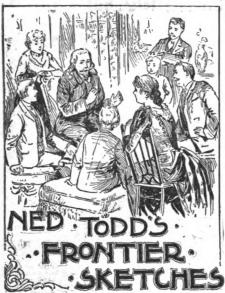
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WE WILL GIVE \$250.00 GASH to the first person who tells us by mail riborlers.

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THE CRAZY BOOMER.—THE BENDERS' DEN.

Somehow it seemed of late that everybody wanted might to come. Ned Todd had declared he would tell no stories in the daytime.

might to come. Ned Todd had declared he would tell me stories in the daytime.

"What do I want to be a talkin' for and keepin' you folks from your work," said Ned Todd.

This famous backwoods hunter, detective and guide, we presume, is familiar to all of our readers as he is to everybody in the territory of Oklahoma. But for fear there should be some who do not know aim well, we will state that Ned Todd is about forty-two years of age, a man brave as a lion, who has had more adventures than any other man living. Is noted for his courage, kindness of heart and his general desire to please everybody.

He was stopping at the Sturgeon House in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Among his many friends were Winnie Dawson, a pretty girl of sixteen years of age who was teaching a subscription school in Oklahoma, and Jack Royal, a young clerk who everybody said was "sweet on Winnie," then came in two gentlemen who are known to the literary world. They were Tom P. Morgan and John H. Whitson, who have both established quite a reputation as story writers.

"I have come to Oklahoma just on purpose to see

"I have come to Oklahoma just on purpose to see Ned Todd," Morgan declared, "and pump him dry." "You have reason to, Tom," John H. Whitson answered."

answered.

"You mean something scurrilous, John."

"No I don't."

"Oh, I can tell by your eye."

"I merely mean, Tom, that you have got to get your ideas from some one.

Tom Morgan winced under this thrust, but when Tom saw the laugh about to be turned on him he quickly retorted:

"I get my ideas just like you get your money, John, I borrow them."

"I get my ideas just like you get your money, John, I borrow them."

"Yes, but I pay back the money I borrow and you was never known to return a borrowed idea."

"Well, if I have any old, worn out, exhausted idea of yours, John, you are welcome to it," said Tom Morgan.

of yours, John, you are welcome to a morgan.
"Here comes Ned Todd, boys," said Jack Royal.
"Come, now, hush your nonsense and maybe we can get a story from him."
"Yes, I would rather hear him tell a story than those two authors quarrel."
"Why, bless your pretty soul my dear Winuie," began Whitson.
"Held on John or I'll tell your wife, and she will

"Why, bless your pretty soul my uear many, began Whitson.
"Hold on, John, or I'll tell your wife, and she will bring you back on your Kansas ranche in a hurry!"
"Don't interrupt me, Tom, when I am talking to the fair sex. That's always the way with a bachelor."
"What were you going to say to me, Mr. Whitson, when you were interrupted by Mr. Morgan?"
"I was going to tell you that Tom and I never quarrel, We've got to have something to sharpen our wits on, you know, just as you sharpen a knife on a stone."

wits on, you know, have be stone," put in "Yes, I am the steel and he is the stone," put in

"Yes, I am the steel and he is the stone," put in Morgan.

"Go it, Tom, you are sure to have the last word."
Before the authors could say any more Ned Todd was seated and Miss Winnie drawing a chair up close to him, and Jack Royal drawing a seat closer to her, both said:
"Now My Todd."

oth said:
"Now Mr. Todd."
"Well now!" and Ned Todd smiled.
"Won't you tell us some stories to-night?"
"You did."

"Did I promise I would?"
"You did."
"Then I will. I make it a point to never make a promise which I don't keep."
Ned Todd took out his pipe and some tobacco.
"I have that as a good omen," said Whitson.
"Whenever Ned Todd takes out his pipe and tobacco a story is not far away."

The eyes of pretty Winnle Dawson were gleaming as bright as diamonds.
"Now, Miss Winnie, I must ask a privilege of you," said Ned.
"What?"
"To smoke."
"It's granted."
"It's granted."
"It's moking offensive?"
"No, not when you are telling such thrilling stories."
The rumor that Ned Todd was firing up and was given to such some touch the contraction of the cont

stories."

The rumor that Ned Todd was firing up and was going to spin some yarns brought several more persons into the large sitting-room of the Sturgeon House, among them Mr. Sturgeon's two boys, Robert and Phill.

nd Phil.
"What do you want to hear to-night, Miss Winnie?"
"Tell us something about Oklahoma."
"Oklahoma?"
"Yes, Oklahoma before anyone lived here."
"And while so many were trying to live there," put

in Jack.

"You mean tell you a story about boomers."

"That's it. A story about boomers."

"Thet's it. A story about boomers."

"Very well, I will tell you a story about a crazy boomer I once knew. He was a typical boomer this fellow was. He had come here at an early day and stuck to the borders of Oklahoma with a persistence and a determination that were admirable. Had he evinced as much pluck at almost any of the many callings in life, he would certainly have become rich in time. in tin

in time.

"Well, he entered with Payne into Oklahoma. He traveled to Rockfalls and when the town was laid out he located some town lots, staked them off, and laid out a farm.

"Some of the other people who were on this raid built houses and Rockfalls became quite a city, as

built nouses and Rockfalls became quite a city, as everybody knows, but Gobe Hart, as this boomer was known, had no money to build a house.

"He merely put up a tent on his farm, ploughed three or four acres of ground and seemed happy and contented.

three or four acres of ground and seemed happy and coatented.

"He had at last reached the promised land. The boomers had made the invasion so secretly that no one suspected them and they were not found until late in fall or winter.

"One day when the ground was covered with snow a rumor came that soldiers were coming. At the time I was a government scout and had been sent to find the boomers. I was not long in locating them at Rockfalls and so reported at Fort Hill.

"A lieutenant and thirty men were sent to drive them out and destroy their improvements. Now Gobe Hart had no improvements to destroy, save a chicken house and a pig pen. When the soldiers came he went into his tent, got his gun and swore he would fight.
"His wife seized his gun and tore it from his hand.

would fight.

"His wife seized his gun and tore it from his hand.

By this time the lieutenant was at the tent.

"I assure you,' he said, 'you shall none of you be
harmed. We only have orders to remove you out of

armed. We only have orders to remove you out of be territory."
"But my farm,' roared Hart.
"You have no farm."
"Look at my improvements."
"The lieutenant laughed and told him to pack them a his wagon. He went then to order the houses

burned and Gobe Hart sat down on the tongue of his

burned and Gobe Hart sat down on the tongue of his wagon and began to rave and swear and tore his hair from his head by handfuls. I was with the soldiers and went to him to know what was the matter, and he rose and seizing my arm oried:

""See, it is this way for thirty years I have waited and watched for this. I have come at last to Oklahoma and it is mine. Look!

"And he pointed to the bleak hills about him.

"See all those broad acres, those great farms bending under corn and grain. They are mine. See those great houses and those bins of corn and wheat. All—all mine. I have them at last. I have carned them by waiting, but now they've come to take them—they shan't do it. My gun—my gun! They are all on fire—I will die resisting—I will die for my home.

"He looked and saw the houses on fire and tried to reach his gun. The man was near insane. I seized him and held him with difficulty. You don't know how strong a mad man can be till you tackle him once. He fought, kicked and bit. We had to tie him and he frothed at the mouth like a mad man. I never saw his like before and pray I never may again.

""See my great farms all on fire—all on fire,' he cried. 'I an ruined, everything is gone and I am ruined.'

"In vain we tried to reason with him. He would not give heed to us. We placed him in his wagon

"In vain we tried to reason with him. He would not give heed to us. We placed him in his wagon and he was started out of the territory.

"The first night we camped he broke away and ran over the prairie. For two days we hunted for him and found him at last wandering half famished on the prairie. He ran from us—ran as I never saw a man run before. I pursued him and caught him with a lasso and we brought him back, but that night he died raving of golden fields, of grain and rich havests. We burled him on the plains, and on a stone which marks his grave is rudely cut, 'A crazy Boomer.'"

Ned Todd neused. His pipe had gone out and he

which marks his grave is rudely cut, 'A crazy Boomer.'"

Ned Todd paused. His pipe had gone out and he proceeded to replenish it and said:

"I promised you a love story this evening, but from appearances, which speak louder than words there is a 'Love Story' in progress between two of this company to night, and a second one could not certainly add anything to the interest which is seemingly being taken in the first."

And then to see Winnie Dawson blush, and Jack Royal edge his chair about one inch further from her, made all present think that Ned Todd's bump of perception was well developed, and after a hearty laugh at Winnie's expense, Ned remarked:

"I'll give ye a story of a woman who once roamed over this country. Although a woman she was as desperate as any man that ever lived. She was bold, daring, cruel and unscrupulous."

"What did she do?" asked Winnie.

"She was a robber."

"A robber, a woman a robber!"

"Yes, she was not only a robber, but a chieftainess of a band of robbers who made desperate names, and the Lord only knows how many murders they committed."

"What less the handit guage "Ned Todd converted."

nitted."
"What was her name?" Jack Royal asked.
"Belle Star, the bandit queen," Ned Todd answered.
Everybody started at the name, for many had
heard of Belle Star before.
"I have heard of her," said Jack Royal.
"I wote a poem about her," put in Tom P. Mor-

gan. "Which never was published," said John H. Whit-

"Which never was published," said John H. Whitson.
"It was; Frank Leslies gave me ten dollars for it."
"Did they?" put in Whitson. "I wrote a short story about her for which I got fifty dollars."
"The editor was certainly drunk when he accepted it," said Morgan.
"Now look here, if you two authors are going to keep up that squabble all the time," put in Ned Fodd, "I'd like to know when I'm to get a chance to spin my yarn."

Tom Morgan and John Whitson were the best of friends and their sallies of humor and repartee never for a moment ruffied the tempers. Both declared they were done and Ned Todd went on.
"Several years ago a woman come up the Arkansas river from Little Rock as far as Fort Gibson. She was a very rich woman and in great distress on account of the mysterious disappearance of her husband. I was at Fort Gibson at the time and the lieutenant of the fort sent for me to come and see the woman and try to obtain some clew of her husband. She said he had come into the Indian Territory to buy cattle and she had not heard of him any more.
"He was last seen near Webbers Falls in the Choc-

the woman and try to obtain some clew of her husband. She said he had come into the Indian Territory to buy cattle and she had not heard of him any more.

"He was last seen near Webbers Falls in the Choctaw nation. Would I try to find him. Of course I would. She had a photograph of her husband which she gave me and I took it and went to Muskogee and there hired a Choctaw guide who said he knew all the country among those wild hills called the Seven Devils. We went to Eaufaula and mounted on two tough mustangs set out for the country below Webbers Falls. We soon reached a wild forest which was entirely strange to me. Night came on and thick clouds rose in the west portending a coming storm. It was soon on us. My guide deserted me and went off in the woods. I was alone. The rain came down in torrents.

"No doubt my guide was a part of the famous banditit known as Belle Star's gang I thought, and the thought did not tend to make me any the more comfortable. I quit the main road and plunging into the woods led my horse after me, for I could not ride owing to the darkness and thick branches.

"After a while I saw the gleam of a light in the distance and went to it. It proved to be a cabin and the only person I found there was a woman about forty years of age. She was dark with short black hair and black eyes. That woman was Belle Star, though I knew her not at that time. I asked permission to remain over night at her house which was granted. Then she prepared me a supper and put me to bed in an adjoining room.

"I don't know why I felt nervous. I had only a short piece of candle with me, and I got up as soon as I was alone and lighted it. I then saw what seemed a pile of blankets and saddles in another corner, and went to examine it. Under the blankets lay a dead man. He had been stabbed that very night in the bed in which I was rying to sleep. For a moment I was about as badly scared as any one could be. I examined the dead man as soon as I recovered enough to do so and saw that it was a the missing man I had come

"Then someone went away.
"I fancied I could hear them talking and saying that he was not asleep. And he was not asleep nor very likely to sleep that night.
"An hour passed and I had made up my mind to a desperate plan. I took my place at the side of the door, a revolver in hand to use as a club rather than a pistol and when someone came again to the door I made no answer. ade no answer.
"'He sleeps,' said a voice.
"The fastening to the door was easily removed, and

The fastening to the door was easily removed, and a man entered.

"Crash came my pistol butt down on his head, and he fell like a bullock without a word. Another followed with a lantern and down he went. The third was Belle Star herself; I covered her with a revolver and made her tie my two would-be murderers, then followed her with my cocked revolver to my horse, made her saddle and bridle him, mounted and galloped away. Next day I went with a force of men, and the house was deserted save the body of the murdered man. It was several years before Belle Star met her fate. She was disguised as a man engaged in a desperate stage robbery when she was shot and killed."

shot and killed."

Everyone sat in breathless suspense through the thrilling recital of Ned Todd's experience with Belle Star, and after a few minutes pause, Winnie Dawson asked for the Love Story; and as that seemed to be uppermost in her thoughts, Ned promised to give them a good love story the next time they were gathered around him for an evening's entertainment.

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Gold Hunting in California.

How the BIG BONANZA MINE THAT YIELDED THREE HUNDRED MILLIONS WAS DISCOVERED.

JOHN W. MACKAY, A POOR IRISH LAD, LEAPS TO A GREAT FORTUNE.

The full story of the California gold hunters has never been told. The many privations, and dangers encountered by the hardy pioneers were enough to discourage the most hardy, and many a pile of bleaching bones, marks the spot where the emigrant met a cruel fate, sometimes by thirst and starvation, but more often by the bloodthirsty Indians who were ever on the alert to commit some deed of barbarism.

The sudden change in the fortunes of the gold hunters has never been equalled in the annals of mining. Men who to-day were worth a few pennies, in the morning found themselves possessed of more



wealth than they ever dreamed of even in their wildest moments. It cost a man a dollar to get his shirt washed, and a new one was simply an impossibility, no matter what price he offered. Shovels and picks sold at fabulous sums, and carpenters earned twenty-five dollars a day. Farm produce was not to be had except in rare instances, and the farmer of '49 who had any sort of a farm, had a property equal to a gold mine. The farm hand was in paradise; whatever price he chose to put on his labor was cheerfully paid by the farmer, who was glad to get him at a price all the way from ten to twenty dollars per day and find. If a farmer's wife happened to have a spinning wheel, and a few yards of cloth more than she needed for her own wants, it was quickly and eagerly purchased at a figure sufficient to keep the fortunate spinner in silks all the rest of her life. It rained gold! apoured gold! all around nothing was heard of, nothing was thought of, but gold! gold! gold!

But of course in the midst of all this wealth there were some who never shared in it at all; whose ill luck seemed determined to cling to them despite their surroundings, and who finally became desperate and abandoned the search only to find themselves miserably poor, and worse off than when they left home. Some became saloon keepers, others sought employment in the various mines as section hands, and a few succeeded in locating themselves in a legitimate and respectable business.

It was to one of these mines that John W. Mackay, the great California millionaire, first offered his services. He was a bright, energetic young Irishman,



MACKAY IN THE GOLD MINES.

and soon won the confidence of the owners. In one of his trips to San Francisco he became intimate with Flood & O'Brien, who kept a saloon on Market St, much frequented by miners in those days. Flood & O'Brien had about 10,000 dollars in cash, and another man named Fair had some interest in the mine where Mackay worked as foreman. Mackay's men were the men who made the first cuts when a vein was to be opened. They had worked several months, and as yet there were no signs of pay dirt. Under such circumstances stock in the mine was at a fearful discount, and was worth but a few dollars a share. Still if gold was struck, the stock would advance rapidly, and the fortunate holders would become rich. Mackay had a salary of \$500.00 per month for his services as foreman and had saved a little, but not enough to be of service should any great change occur in the property of the mine. It was finally agreed that Flood & O'Brien and J. G. Fair were to wait advices from Mackay, and if he reported favorably they were to buy the mine, and he was to receive one-quarter. On his return to the mine, Mackay took his position at the head of the gang, and one afternoon a sudden change in the rock became apparent. The drill which he used seemed to sink into a soff toolon as soft substance. He immediately ordered the men to quit work, returned to the place and made his own tests. All around was a solid big boulder. This he pierced in every side, and each "tryer" came out with a solid coil of gold in the end. How far the gold extended he could not say, but enough was discovered to answer his purpose. He stopped work in that vicinity, and telegraphed to Flood & O'Brien. In a day the stock was quictly purchased, and the famous firm since known as the Bonanza Kings came into existence. No one, not even Mackay, knew the extent of the find. Out of that one pocket more than 3,000,000 were taken every month with scarcely any labor. The ore lay inside of this boulder, almost one solid mass. In fact so rich was this o ing through the crusher, rocks had to be mixed with it to prevent clogging the wheels. It is probably the



"GOLD AT LAST!"

richest gold mine the world ever produced. When the news finally reached San Francisco, the wildest excitement prevailed. The saloon of Flood & O'Brien was surrounded by an excited mob eagerly discussing news of the great discovery. In less than twenty-four hours these men who had counted themselves rich with a trifle more than ten thousand dollars suddenly found themselves worth that many militons, and growing richer every moment. Alladin and His Wonderful Lamp was thrown into the shade. In all

the history of sudden wealth there is none to equal the story of the Bonanza Kings. Every one of them were poor men, and without any particular education. That they had brains has been proven by the asterly manner in which they took care of the fortune thus suddenly acquired.

The wife of Mr. Mackay is a leading society lady in London, and the magnificence of her jewels and the splendor of her entertainments are something that dazzle even a country farmer for its aristocratic bearings. Her daughter is a princess, having married the Prince of Collona, and she is grandmother to a boy who will some day succeed to the title. At the time of her acquaintance with Mackays she was the wife of a worthless fellow, who was good enough to die, leaving her one child, the princess referred to above. John Mackay boarded with her in those days, and when she became a widow lost not time in offering his heart and his hand.

Mrs. Mackay, however, does not like the papers to speak of her early life, and recently sued an English publisher for saying that she made her husband's acquaintance in the somewhat humble role of laundress. There is nothing discreditable in the story, and there is abundant evidence to prove that the facts are nearly correct. But the lapse of years makes it difficult to prove them, and the English newspaper had to apologize and pay costs. It makes no difference with sensible people whether Mr. Mackay made Mrs. Mackay's acquaintance when taking home his shirts of a Saturday night, or whether she met him at a ball. The fact that she was a poor, lonely widdy struggling to support herself and child in a wild and somewhat lone community, doubtless touched his heart, and it is nothing that either need now feel disposed to conceal. But change of circumstance often change the people themselves, and the lack of a coat of arms is sometimes keenly felt by millionaires who acquired their wealth in their shirt sleeves.

Altogether Mrs. Mackay, no less than her husband, is a distinguished member of English society, and the

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MY DEAR FRIENDS:

As I sit by my window and watch the snowflakes fluttering slowly, softly down, covering the bare and desolate earth, the trees all cold and leafless, everything wrapped in the icy mantle of death, I wonder why it was so ordained. Why must the beautiful summer fade away? Why must the flowers die, the birds cease to sing, the balmy air grow chill and plercing? We cannot answer this oft-suggested question, only to say, it is God's will, and life and death slike are in His hands.

So with our lives. We cannot understand why it is not always summer with us, why the beauty and sweetness of our living is taken away, and the funeral pall falls upon our dearest hopes. But take a lesson from Nature. Do the flowers wholly die? yes, but next year others, as beautiful, will bless the now barren stalks. The birds leave us, but in spring time the air will once more be filled with their songs. The trees stand bare and brown, but the resurrection life is in them, and with the opening spring they will burst into wondrous greenness and beauty. These are but an analogy of our life. Some day, it may be in this world, or perchance not until we have slept the dreamless sleep, the resurrection time will come to us, and our hopes, our joys, our lost days, our unsatisfied longings, will be perfected in glorious fruition. "Some day all our joy-bells ring, Some day all our poy-bells ring, Some day all our poy-bells ring, Some day—some sweet day."

I have such an interesting letter to give you this month from Physician. I know you will all cripor

I have such an interesting letter to give you this month from Physician. I know you will all enjoy his delightful reminiscences.

I have such an interesting letter to give you this month from Physician. I know you will all enjoy his delightful reminiscences.

"Some of your readers write that they don't like Dickens. For one that has not had a wide scope of reading, an appreciation of his works must be an acquired taste. But to read him carefully, I don't see how one can very well help liking him. Where will you find a more pathetic incident in fiction than the death of Little Nell? Where a more interesting story for children than 'The Christmas Carol'? Where more genuine mirth than in 'Pickwick Papers' Each one of his stories is a study in human nature. Perhaps my own predelictions may color my opinion, but it seems to me that one can gain much of pleasure and of knowledge in reading his novels. Another thing, they are all pure, although many of his characters are drawn from the lowest classes, yet they offer no immoral suggestions. A number of years ago I heard him read two of his short stories, after the reading lis mas introduced and took supper with him. One evening about a year later I was sauntering along the Champs Elysees in Paris; my attention was attracted by some music in one of the Cafes chantants which are located there. Entering I found a seat near the stage. During an intermission in the performance, I heard a gentleman sitting behind me give an order to a waiter for cigarettes and carenoir. I recognised the voice, and turning, saw Charles Dickens. He always remembered faces and spoke to me at once, although it was more than a year since I had met him. I passed a very pleasant evening in his company. A year later, I was in London, I visited Westminister Abbey one atternoon in the early autumn. High in the nave, near the Poets corner, are several stanned glass windows, through one of which the sunlight filtered, casting a yellow light upon the tessellated floor; and in the colored shadow cast by the autumnal sun, I read in brass letters sunk in the marble pavement at my feet: 'Charles Dickens, Born February the seventh, 1812

I cannot but envy you the rare privilege of meeting one who is, to my mind, one of the greatest masters of fiction. His works have been my delight since childhood; I believe I read "Barnaby Rudge" and "Olivor Twist" before passing my tenth birthday. Those who do not care for Dickens lose much pleasure, and it is worth one's while to cultivate a taste for his somewhat peculiar style. His novels are always pure and elevating.

always pure and elevating.

"I have gained much comfort from reading letters written by the cousins. I am one of the 'Shut Ins' and would be very glad to receive reading matter. Now, dear Aunt, why can't we have a birthday list, so that we 'Shut Ins' can remember each other with tokens of love? I have been a 'Shut In' 16 years and know all the weariness it brings. All are not, like myself, deprived of father, mother, home and health, and yet I have much to praise God for. Are there any of our 'Shut Ins' who would like to join the 'Shut In' Society' If they will write to me sending stamps to cover expenses I will give them the information desired. Tell those of the band who are or have been collecting used stamps, not to be discouraged by any letters saying there is no market for them. I have collected over 30,000 stamps since last December. There are reliable parties who buy them.

"Miss' FLORENCE A. LANGLEY, West Levant, Penobscot Co., Maine."

Weil some one tell us about the "birthday list"? I

West Levant, Penobsect Co., Maine."

Will some one tell us about the "birthday list"? I should think it might be a very nice thing for each "Bhut In" to send the date of her birthday and have a "letter party" on that day; perhaps that is what you mean by the list. Suppose we try this plan, and form a sort of Comport birthday society for the exchange of letters, etc. Would the friends like that?

Comport Cousins:—I will first give my sympathy to the "Shut Ins," as I was a "Shut In" for six months in the spring and summer with spinal trouble. I have some papers I would like you all to have to read, late "Youth's Companions," "Household Monthly," some Sunday-school papers and my Comports. I would rather send them to "Shut Ins" near my age, eighteen in Jan, then they can send them to others.

Dayton, Yamhill Co., Oregon."

"I have a number of 'Children's Chatterbox Magazines' which I will divide among little 'Shut Ins' if addresses are sent to me.

Loll Belle Boath, Box 1690, New Orleans, La."

Many thanks for these kind offers. I know there

Many thanks for these kind offers. I know there will be many who will gladly accept them.

I have a few lines from our friend Mrs. E. Jones.

Dear Cousins:—Please accept very many warm thanks for your remembrance of me on my birthday. Very few sent presents, but they are the first I've received since my marriage, and are doubly appreciated. Many thanks for S. S. papers and lesson cards: do not need more. Any of the cousins who wish to prove their sympathy for me by some benevolent generous act, please send stamped envelope and paper, and I will contrive to send you a line of thanks. The letter sent to me by our dear Merry Sunshine containing stamps was never received, and I fear others were lost also. I enjoy reading your sympathizing letters immensely and wish I were able to answer all. Zelma Arden is my oldest daughter, not a boy as the Unknown Cousin thinks. Cheer up, dear Sister "Shut In," perhaps we shall improve under the warm "Sunshine and Sympathy." How very kind of our dear Auntie to give us this cozy little room to our selves; we will never forget her, will we? Again I carnestly entreat all to pray for me and mine, and I hope we may all meet where sorrow and suffering are no more. A loving adieu from your poor suffering cousin.

Alexander City, Tallapoosa Co., Ala.

"I belong to the great army of invalids, having been afflicted with paralysis of the lower limbs for nearly

cousin. Alexander City, Tallapoosa Co., Ala.

"I belong to the great army of invalids, having been afflicted with paralysis of the lower limbs for nearly two years. I am just twenty years of age, and prior to a severe attack of typhold fever, Sept. 1889, was blessed with excellent health. I believe, until I was so auddenly deprived of my power to walk, I enjoyed life as well as most boys. It was ever my rule to associate with the best of society and to shun everything calculated to bring upon me the reproach of respectable people. I am happy to say that I have never been a victim of strong drink and have never permitted an oath to pass my lips. How sad it makes me to see young men destroying their souls and bodies, and marring the happiness of their relatives and friends, by indulging in the terrible demon, drink. Oh, may the time come when they will see their errors and turn from the evil paths before it is too late! I would be pleased to correspond with some of the cousins, and would be glad to have them send me curiosities and good reading matter. I am trying to obtain an education and as I am very poor, any good books which would assist me in so doing would be gratefully accepted. If anyone should send me reading matter, such as magazines, newspapers, etc., will read them and forward to some other unfortunate. Hoping that God will bless all the cousins and especially those who are unfortunate.

I fear we must now close our talk for this month. Once more I call the attention of King's Daughters.

I fear we must now close our talk for this month. Once more I call the attention of King's Daughters, and all who want to do something for the Master, to this column and the needs of our poor suffering friends.

AUNT MINERYA.

Names of those wishing reading matter, help and sympathy:
Mrs. Lizzie Smith, Naples, Ind. Ter.
Mrs. Annie E. Davidson, Terry, Miss.
Miss Sarah Johns, Manitowoc, Wisc.
Miss S. E. Moody, Allenton, N. C.
Belle Henderson, Jackson, O.
Box 26, Montello, Wisc.
Miss Maggie Minerd, Ohiopyle, Penn.
Mrs. Carrie Evans, Manteo, N. C.
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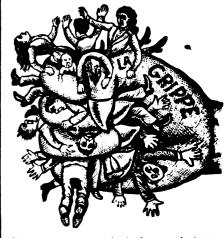
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AGAIN IN ITS GRASP.

Tightening its toils, we mean that snosning, cougsing, back-aching maiady—that ore us stealthily its victim, bears him down for a time and when confident of recovery takes him from our midst—epidem: influenza or La Grippe.

In this land, as in others, it sneered at the attempt of our scientists and medics to arrest its terribateourse.

In a twinkling, old, middle aged and young seized as victims and struggling in its grasp.



Fully 50 per cent, were destined never to recover. Many families were extinguished entire. Many were torn apart and the few remaining members left will the memories of a once happy home.

Thousands were brought to a bed of suffering few the remainder of their life. Thousands more were left subjects for the mad house.

The heroic endeavors of the medical professional profession of the mean of the saved many of those who were stricken with Grippe, but in most of those cases the saving of was but to prolong the misery, for it is well know that wherever the monster sets its seal, it is sure leave unfavorable results, but in the past record the distemper it has been proven that that plain, simple tablet called Oxize, had a large well it did its duty is attested by the numerous leters received from our grateful friends. Oxize, had a large well it did its duty is attested by the numerous leters received from our grateful friends. Oxigen hold by the suffering, and effect a complete cure than any or; of the advertised remedies.

The dreaded disease takes a ready hold of the ten unprepared to withstand its ravages and it and duty you all owe to your friends and relatives, to fortified upon the arrival of the first symptome thous shall we do this?

Keep a supply of the food on hand. When you few a slight cold coming on, look out, it is the warming note. The sneezing, hacking and coughing is it messenger of warning sent you. Commence take the tablets as directed and you will note with the tablets as directed and you will note with the tablets as directed and you will note with the tablets as directed and you will note with the tablets as directed and you will note with the stablets as directed and you will note with the tablets as directed and you will note with the stablets as directed and you will note with the stablets as directed and you will note with the stablets as directed and you will note with the stablets as directed and you will note with the stablets as directed and you will note with the stablets as directed

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Last Sunday afternoon!



"Why yes, indeed, dear Caroline,
They gave me up for dead;
Night after night no sleep was mine—
I tossed about in bed.
But just when everybody thought
Death soon would supervene,
Some friend of father's kindly brought
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That giant food great praise deserves
For what it did to me,
It quickly calmed my shattered nerves
And made the fever fice.
And any girl who's feeling weak—
However bad she's been—
Can get relief if she will seek
Aid from this great OXIEN!"





Cousin Hebe's Reflections.

"'TIS LOVE, 'TIS LOVE THAT MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND," and it is only the maid of sixteen who vows she will never leave the old home. Generally she is the first to break this youthful resolution.



ROUND," and it is only the maid of sixteen who vows she will never leave the old home. Generally she is the first to break this youthful resolution.

It is pleasing to see therefore that mathematical and statistical science, which plays so important a part in the speculative interest of the business world, have at last been exerted in behalf of woman. It remained for an Englishman to make up the table which every girl, who has not taken a vow to remain single, ought to paste on the inside of her parasol. The certainty of marriage.

CUPID HEARTS AND The calculator takes the earliest marrying age to be 15 and makes 100 represent the contract of the which every girl, who has not taken a vow to remain single, ought to paste on the inside of her parasol. The calculator takes the earliest marrying age to be 15 and makes 100 represent the expressed as follows:

Between 20 and 25 years

Between 20 and 25 years

Between 35 and 40 years

Between 35 and 40 years

Between 36 and 65 years

111-2

Between 36 and 65 years

3-8 of 1

Above the age of 60, the chance is only .001, or 1 in 1,000. Of course there may be circumstances which will modify the figures in some cases. Charms of manner or appearance, the possession of marked talents or even wealth may raise the percentage. But the figures represent the grand average; and no woman can hereafter make the excuse that she did not know when the favorable time for action had arrived. What may be expected after the performance of the ceromony may be gleaned from a partial tabulation by Sir Francis Gatton. This eminent peer, from an investigation of 205 couples, found that 53 per cent. of when had fretful, violent, and masterful wives. Of 64 bad-tempered wives. It was also found that 23 per cent, of wives are fretful, 13 per cent, of wives

found that 23 per cent. of wives are fretful, 13 per cent. violent, and 6 per cent. masterful. This would seem to indicate that the position of husband is rather more desirable than that of wife.

"It is the fat girl who has the best time," writes Ella Wheeler Wilcox in New York "Truth," "If you have not positive beauty, or the subtle magnetic charm that carries all before it, you merely want to acquire flesh—lots of it, my dear girl—and you will have plenty of admirers. Men like roly-poly women. I know they will raise a howl of denial, but all 1 ask of you is to watch them. Time and again I have seen girls with beautiful faces acting as wall-flowers. I have never yet seen a wall-flower who had fat shoulders and big arms and hips. 'I can't endure a fat woman,' I heard a man say one day last winter. But that evening I chanced to see him in a ball-room, where there was a great variety of pretty women, all strangers to him. He looked about him with a critical eye, and finally said to me: 'Get me an introduction to the girl in lavender—she is superb.' The girl in lavender was unnoticeable in face and feature—her complexion was dull, her yes lusterless; but she was sumptious of form Cushions of soft, white flesh billowed up over her square-cut corsage, and her arms were like the arms of an overgrown, overfed baby—shapeless, fat, and dimpled. During the evening, five other men came to the hostess, and, in my hearing, asked to be presented to the girl in lavender.' A slender, spirituelle girl, famous for her beautiful face, did not receive half the attention bestowed upon the fat girl. Over and over again I have observed the same thing. Say what they will, criticise as, they may, men are nevertheless attentive to young women with an oversuply of flesh. I think men have an instinctive feeling that tesh means benevolence, amiability, and repose: at all events, they give the overplump girl agood time. They will be ever at your side to fill your dancing-card, to give you dress-maker can, in discussing your figure; your la



Speaking the other day, not without a suggestion of professional pride, of the attention bestowed by the newspapers on a recent wedding in high life at Newport, the New York "Sun" commented upon the development of a public interest "in a circle of luxurious society" in this country, whose "dimensions are so small that all of its more prominent members have become in some sort public characters." Thanks to the newspapers, the "Sun" said

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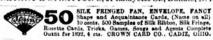
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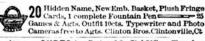
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for Treatise. THE WILSON DRUG CO., Greeley. Colo.

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Tansus Paper Flowers, how to make, assumped
taper and price-list of material, 10s. Ladies Art Co., Bort 56 v. St. Lous, MaPlease mention Controltr when you write.

the names and faces of these persons have become everywhere familiar, and so great is the popular interest in their personality and the fascination and glamour of their lives, that they have become "like the people look with feelings approaching ave." Commenting on this, "Life" says: "We believe our luminous contemporary is some distance out in this matter, and that a large percentage of its own readers will shake with inextinguishable laughter at the idea of likening McAllister's gang to rare and priceless jewels, or looking at them with anything remotely resembling awe. We ordinary people have always more or less appetite for tattle and gossips, and like to know about other people, and how they live. That is why we read novels, and why we read newspapers take to gather tattle for us. The chief reason why McAllister's folks in the newspapers to such an extent is that they are exceptionally conspicutions. They are rich, as a continuous contentors continuous contentors continuous contentors content



The Woman's Building of The World's Columbian Exposition.

The Woman's Building of The World's Columbian Exposition.

THERE are in the history of the world many names of women who have achieved distinction, and we hear often of women of the present day who are engaged abroad in doing work for the good and betterment of mankind. But in no other country on which the warm sun shines has woman made such strides toward emancipation and liberty and equality as she has in this. In other countries the few who can write great novels, or be doctors or be leaders in great movements do so perhaps without loss of their own self-respect or the respect of their neighbors. In this country not only can those greatly gifted do as others do elsewhere; but women of more modest ability or attainments can here pursue happiness or seek independence and a livelihood as they please without any loss of caste or reputation.

It was fitting therefore that when it was decided upon that an International Exposition should be held in 1893 that due provision should be made for the execution of women's work and progress.

In the Act of Congress providing for the due celebration of the landing of Columbus, the commission constituted under that net was authorized and required to appoint a board of lady managers of a number and with duties to be prescribed by the commission, and the board of lady managers was by the act given power to appoint one or more members of all committees authorized to award prizes for exhibits which may be produced in whole or in part by female labor.

Soon after the permanent organization of the Commission its president, the Hon. Thomas W. Palmer announced the names of the ladies he had appointed on the Board oby virtue of the authority transferred to him by the Commission itself. The Board was composed of ladies either well known to the nation or of standing in their own localities. Among them were Mrs. John A. Logan of Washington and MissFrances E. Willard of Evanston, Ill., whose name as that of an able earnest worker in the cause of temperance reform is known the country ove

Horticultural Building and only a thousand feet or so away from the mammoth building in which will be housed the exhibits of Manufactures and Liberal Arts.

A prize of one thousand dollars was offered for the best design and this, appropriately enough, was won by a woman, Miss Sophia G. Hayden of Boston. It is intended and hoped that all the interior decoration and arrangement will be the invention of women.

As may be seen in the picture the building is to be a very beautiful one of classic architecture. It is to be two stories high. At the two ends and at the center are to be projections or pavilions as they are called. So will be gained desirable variety in the appearance of the front and in the arrangement of the floor space. The projections or pavilions at, the end are to be connected with that at the center by an open way or arcade the roof of which is to be supported by arches carried on columns of simple style. Upon the balustrade above will be a series of classic vases. The pillars of the second story between the windows and re-enforcing and beautifying the walls are to be more richly ornamented. The roof is a low one and below it and running quite around the building will be a cornice elaborately decorated. The main entrance of the building is to be in the center of the front and through a triple archway. This entrance is to be of such beauty that it will in itself extend a further invitation to visitors to enter and behold.

The main gallery is to be a large room sixty feet wide by two hundred feet long. To the left of this will be a room 80x200 feet. In this will be an exhibit of what woman has accomplished in the past. At the other end of the building, to the right, there will be a room of similar size in which will be shown the ways and works of women in charities and reforms, matters in which all women are vitally interested.

In the main gallery or elsewhere in the building there will be a model kindergarten in which will be shown how woman directs arright the first public though weak steps of t

will be omitted.

There will be rooms for the officers and committees, a club room for exhibitors, and for the comfort and pleasure of visitors as well as those engaged in the management there will be rooms for parlor gather-

management the form of the state of the stat

woman has done and can do to aid the advance of civilization.

Mrs. Palmer, the President, has been abroad, and the other members of the Board have been wisely energetic. Not only in this country where many of the States in making appropriation have placed a portion at the disposal of the ladies; but in every European land due provision has been made for this special department of the exposition.

The nation was wise then in arranging to give the ladies recognition and power and responsibility in this way. And women, as represented in the Board of Lady Managers, has been a mighty and successful force in the preparation for, as they will be in the conduct of this greatest of World's Fairs.



GROUP of thinkers was once discussing the question as to which of the three men was the most valuable to the community—the man of projects, the man of resources, or the man of imagination. They were unable to reach a conclusion, for said they: The man of projects invents a way to do a thing; the man of resources makes a practical application of the invention, and the man of imagination sings their praises. True, in some few cases all three characters are united in one man, as they were in Robinson Crusoe who devised, executed and applauded. But generally speaking men who devise and execute have no time to sing their own praises, or even to pat themselves on the shoulder. They are busy with the idea that has nested in their mind; and yet they need encouragement, they require applause, they are dependent upon the approbation of their fellow-creatures. In other words, someone must have imagination, or the world will soon come to a standstill. Said the French poet Beranger: "Let me make the songs for a nation and I care not who makes the laws. It was not Farragut's, Sherman's, Sheridan's, or Grant's sword that freed the slaves; rather was it the fervid imaginations of Mrs. Stowe, of Phillips, Garrison and Whittier which made liberty so dear to our people that they were willing to die for it. Without Jefferson's imagination Washington would have striven in vain to free this land from English bondage. or even to pat themselves on the shoulder.

ng fists of a drunken husband!"

**

People who work with their hands are very apt to look upon brain workers as idle folk. When George Stephenson, the inventor of the locomotive and builder of the first railway, would go to bed in the middle of the day his neighbors looked upon him as a lazy man, a sluggard. They couldn't imagine such a thing as a man's going to bed to think! Thinking is not work in some people's eyes, strange to sav. sluggard. They couldn't imagine such a thing as a man's going to bed to think! Thinking is not work in some people's eyes, strange to say, and yet there can be no harder work than deep thinking. It arches the back, furrows the brow and dims the eye more quickly than does hewing of wood or drawing of water. Think how hard Archimedes was toiling when as the Roman soldier rushed upon him with drawn sword, he merely called out to him to be careful and not step upon the geometrical figures which he had drawn upon the sand. True, there have been thinkers who were also handworkers. Elihu Burrit the learned blacksmith pounded his anvil while studying mathematics and languages; Hogg the Ettrick shepherd made verses while tending his employer's sheep, and Arkwright the inventor of the spinning-jenny worked out his ideas while occupied in shaving beards a week old for a ha'penny. To get down to the moral of this train of thought, we would counsel the man of brawn not to sneer lightly at the man of brawn not to sneer lightly at the man of brains. They are both very necessary to the world's "Song of the Shirt" shows how ready the poet is to come to his fellow-creature's assistance, and many and many a blow has the good gray poet Walt Whitman struck on the anvil of his brain in order to forge an idea in defense of the laborer. Honor to genius!

**
Lackaday, we had nearly forgotten that Saint Valentine was born in this month when the

Lackaday, we had nearly forgotten that Saint Valentine was born in this month when the postman laid a tiny envelope on our desk,

most neatly addressed in purple ink. Upon opening it, the following came to view:

Don't say you're old and turn away, Confide in me most blindly; Old wine, old books, old friends are best! You're frosty but you're kindly.

You pass your life among your books In far too much seclusion; Just let me in to mix things up In genial confusion.

I know some things not found in books. Philosophy is sham, sir, My name? why yes, I don't object— Your valentine I am, sir.

So haste and open wide your door And let me in beside you; And if I prove not welcome, sir, I'll never more deride you!

well profit by his example.

But, cries someone of our fair readers, you surely do not mean to assert that the brain worker and the hand-worker, the man of thought and the man of action do not stand in need of a woman's affection to cheer and sustain them? By no means, while it may be true as the good book asserts that woman was created for the greater glory of man, yet is it also true that all great men have been more or less dependent upon and inspired by the love of some good woman. This is even true of great warriors. Take Cromwell, Marlborough, Napoleon and Washington. Their devotion to their wives was at all times beautiful as it was praiseworthy. We have the words of Bismarck and Disræli, that they owe their greatness to their wives. True, Sir Isaac Newton never found time to choose a wife and when upon one occasion he got so far as to take a maiden by the hand he forthwith sank into a fit of abstraction and in his absent-mindedness used one of her dainty fingers to stop his pipe with. We read much concerning the unhappy love of men of genius, but the makers of these books are very careful to omit such names as Addison, Balzac, Scott, Cooper, Longfellow, Tennyson and hosts of others, including Martin



honest young men and earnest young women, go on with your wedding feasts and although there may be no divine guests present to turn the water into wine, yet shall ye find that the love from which selfishness has been winnowed hath power and potency to work many a miracle—sweeten toil, lessen sorrow, dull pain, gladden the humblest fireside and add sweetness to the plainest fare. Like a grab bag at a church fair, the Editor's drawer, when pulled way out is often found to contain some scraps bearing, as the lawyers say, all fours upon the very subject under discussion. Who may be the author of the following is a difficult matter to say, but one thing is quite certain it has never been published before. It is entitled:

PLAIN ADVICE TO THOSE ABOUT TO MARRY, TO THE MAN.

PLAIN ADVICE TO THOSE ABOUT TO MARRY.

TO THE MAN.

If you think that a woman is any weakerminded than a man, stop where you are.

If you have chosen a pretty woman without
regard to her other qualities, halt, you are on
the wrong road.

If you think that a house should have only
one head and that head be yours, postpone
your wedding indefinitely.

If you have an idea that you are too good for
a picked-up dinner, remain a bachelor.

If you are of the opinion that marriage makes
man and wife one and that you are to be that
one, send in your regrets, at once.

If you intend to treat yourself any better
than you treat your wife, don't take one.

If you have found it a hard task to be happy
yourself, don't try to make anyone else happy.

If you suppose that running the house consists in paying the bills, don't undertake it.

If you are one of those men who think that
ten per cent of their income belongs to the
tap room, in heaven's name let marriage alone.

If you incline to the opinion that any manners are good enough for home manners, don't
try to have a home.

If you intend to encourage your wife by telling her that her cake, puddings and pies are
not so good as those your mother used to make,
don't go any farther; break the engagement.

If you are marrying her for her figure, it
would be wise on your part to watch her diet
very closely.





TWO CARDINALS STRICKEN DOWN

The Duke of Clarence Suddenly Taken Off.

Princess Mary Heart-broken Now That Prince Albert is no More.

Funeral Not Wedding Bells.

Great Excitement Through All Europe.

Great Excitement Through All Europe.

And the United States is also in a fever of excitement over the same trouble that has stirred nearly all the people on this Globe. The cause of the sudden taking off of The Great Khedive of Egypt, the mighty cardinals, Manning and Simeoni, and the soon to be King of Excitant, Prince Albert, Duke of Clarence, has all come from the same disease, that awful distemper "La Grippe" which is sweeping over the world and mowing down its victims by the thousand. It is not confined to High Life, it fastens its fangs into all sorts of human beings. Unless you prepare and fortify yourself against the attacks of this dread monster you, dear reader, as well as everyone else, are liable to receive a visit any day from the sourge. How common is the seene we present here of the poor mother not able to hardly get around herself, yet when the children are so sick in bed she must look after their wants as she is all alone with them. The telegraph columns of daily papers are filled each day with news from all parts of the U. S. telling of this one high up in life's station, that one middle way along or the very poor people who have come down to their grave during the passing by of the last twenty-four hours, and still the work of the slayer goes on. The weak are the first ones to fall victims and they should be ready to ward off the attacks and make them light as possible. It has been found that really the only thing to rely on to assist the weakly person through these attacks is Oxien, that great and wonderful food for the Nerves. It comes in tablet form so it can be carried in the vest or dress pocket so to be always handy; it drives out and kills any germs that remain in the system and downs the monster every time. To those who are quite strong or very strong Oxien is a great help to ward off any possibility of the La Grippe getting a foothold Oxien is now recommended as a hot drink. This ercellent beverage is easily prepared by dissolving tablet in hot water and it thus acts quickly. The lent beverage is easily prepared by dissolving blet in hot water and it thus acts quickly. The



THE POOR MOTHER'S SORROW

Oxien Porous plasters are the greatest assistant however for they pull while the food is driving, and it is then impossible for disease to gain control. Thousands of people from all parts of the world are sending for this wonderful food and the new plasters to comfort and soothe them in their misery. Any one can get a Free sample of the food to try for themselves by sending to the manufacturers, The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, who want to do all the good possible and thus send free to all who write this month, and we recommend every reader of this paper to send to-day, don't wait until you are sick, have it ready in the house, or if you have been sick and don't feel quite as strong as ever be sure and send for some, and all should take advantage of the great offer this month.

Some people wonder what The Grip is like, well in the language of one who has had it we will say the first symptom is a general physical collapse. The patient falls all to pieces like a house struck by an earthquake; he tries to speak but finds the voice gone he is so hoarse, your feet increase in weight, each one seems to weigh a ton. Your joints seem packed in coarse gravel; you seem to travel like a top heavy load of hay drawn by an unbroken yoke of steers over new ploughed ground; cannot breath through your nose, and at times even through your nowth, then you breath through your pores which seem to be all closed up; your skull seems to be a kettle to boil your brains in, they are stewed like as a housewife stews dumplings, all the aches of all the ages seem to be focused within you. You suffer all the like first part of the part o kettle to boil your brains in, they are stewed like as a housewife stews dumplings, all the aches of all the ages seem to be focused within you. You suffer all the ills fiesh is heir to and all your bones ache besides and this is what you escape if you keep Oxien on hand and take it regularly, for unless prepared it strikes people down as they come from shopping or weddings. The Princess Mary can never see he wedding day with the Prince now and become Qures. of England as was to be her probable good fortune had not La Grippe come along and snatched them from her.





DEAR COMFORT FRIENDS: How are you getting on with your New SYear resolutions, pretty well cracked by this time, are they? Never mind, remember that

"Every day is a new beginning,
Every morn is the world made new,"
and do not be discouraged, but try again.
even if you do not hit the mark.

even if you do not hit the mark.

I believe I promised to announce another competition for the Essay Club this month. I had intended to have reports from the committees appointed last month, but have been prevented from writing to them, so we shall have to wait another month for those. Remember the yearly assessment of 10c.; all those not renewing before Feb. Ist will have their names dropped from the list. The subject for the next competition will be The Comparative Ability of the Sexes; Is Man Superior to Woman? A prize of five dollars will be given for the best essay on this subject; a year's subscription to COMFORT for the second best. Competition expires Apr. 5.

Now for the letters. So many, I know, are im-

for the second best. Competition expires Apr. 5.

Now for the letters. So many, I know, are impatiently waiting for theirs to appear; but dear friends, you can have no idea of the immense number which I receive, and for even the best of them there is not room. So you must not feel too much hurt if your own good and interesting letter never gets into print; you may think that Auntie has read it, anyway. Some are still forgetting what I have said so many times about not using a lead pencil, and not writing on both sides of the paper; so they get in the waste-basket without delay. But I am talking too much. It is astonishing how garrulous we old Aunties do get.

"My parents were among the first settlers in this

do much. It is astonishing how garrulous we old Aunties do get.

"My parents were among the first settlers in this county, and when they first came here, as far as the eye could reach, there was nothing but the level prairie, look which way you might. Over these plains thousands of buffaloes roamed to their own sweet will. The Indians were friendly enough, almost too friendly in fact, for they were not very pleasant neighbors. But that was a good many years ago, too long ago for me to remember much about it. About four years ago I spent a summer in Colorado. I wanted very much to see a cowboy, and I shall never forget the first one I saw. Auntie, he didn't look one bit like I thought he would. He did not look any different from the western citizen in general. Will all the coustins write to me? Should like to hear from the South.

If you want to see a cowboy now, Blossom, we have one among us, and I will "trot him out" for your inspection.

*I want to be a cowboy and with the cowboys stand,
A broad brimmed hat upon my head, a riatta in my

nand; And here on western plains so wild and so wide, I'd chase the long eared calf and brand the maverick's

I'd chase the long eared calf and brand the maverick's side.

So, Aunt, you want us to come again and tell more of that free (?) Western life, do you? Well, here I am. I have just returned from a forty-five consecutive days roundup, tired, dirty and hungry. Found awaiting me some very nice letters from the cousins. These I will answer at earliest opportunity. The girls used to say my heart was just like a street caralways room for one more. It was never filled, I presume, because that one never entered. Just so with my correspondence—never so numerous but that one more is welcome. I am not a Darwinian in belief, but when it comes to a continued exchange of letters, then the 'survival of the fittest' is my creed. Aunt, I hope you will not be uneasy that any of your nices will lead me on to—to—well, you said what it was. I was never there myself, but have a dear friend who has suffered and he has given me the minute details as to the way girls write when they are just leading on. If any persist in this game, I presume it is something two can play at. Wis. Wild William bravely makes his statements as to what he will never do. Bravo! now stick to it Bill and maybe some girl will be the happier by your not getting her. Do not consider myself a coward. Like W. W. B., can make pumpkin pie (which I will compare with his) but I always enjoy them better when there is some one to eat them with me. So I would not say what might befall me. The poet says,

"There is a Destiny that shapes our ends rough,

eat them with me. So I would not say what might befall me. The poet says,

"There is a Destiny that shapes our ends rough, Hew them as we will."

This seems to be prophetic of my case and so while working for the best am resigned for what fate (if such there be) has in store for me. I can see no impropriety in corresponding with strangers. Is it our fault we are such? Do we not know our own feelings and are we prompted by unworthy motives? Why not give others credit for what we are willing to take for ourselves. Discretion of course should be used in all things, and they who are devoid of such should consult with those who are able to advise; and there are no better advisors than our mothers (God bless them.) Well, I'm mounted again, but when, where or what shall I commence at? Ah! here is a long eared calf that needs attention, and while I am branding him, will think of a commencing point and write something of Arizona. Best wishes to all.

WILLIAM THAMES, Willcox, Arizona."

Yes, God bless the mothers! If only the girls, and hoys too, would not be so impatient to get away from Mother's advice, so prone to consider her "old-fashioned" and "behind the times," there would be fewer wreeks in the young lives around us.

"Mr. Charles Percy De Vere, you deserve a good 'law' from every me of Avalid's "nices".

tewer wrecks in the young lives around us.

"Mr. Charles Percy De Vere, you deserve a good 'jaw' from every one of Auntie's nieces. Now wouldn't you rather talk than chew tobacco? I'm sure I would, and don't you suppose that in talking one jaw would wear out as fast as the other? while in chewing tobacco—Well, I never took particular notice, but I do not think I ever saw a man who chewed tobacco on both sides of his mouth. As to talking, any one that reads your letters would think you were a pretty good talker yourself. Would be pleased to exchange photos with you (may I, Auntie) Pedagogne, I liked your letter in March Comfort very much. It is so intelligently written. Can any of the cousins tell me where I can get the story, Our Mary'?

SUNNY CHURCHIL."
Oh yes. Auntie is willing that you should exchange

Oh yes, Auntie is willing that you should exchange photos. But I shall not let you "come down" too hard on Percy De Vere, for I confess that he is one of my favorite nephews!

of my favorite nephews!

"I live in south Texas near the gulf. The climate is delightful and mild except a few northers during winter, but which only last a short time. Our country is mostly level, and the prairies are covered with heantiful wild flowers which form a vast carpet of beauty in spring time. This part of Texas is settling up very rapidly; ranches arefeling cut up into farms, and many small towns have sprung up as if by magic. Il live near one of the oldest settlements in Texas, the old Goliad Mission which still stands in the midst of a quaint old Mexican town. It played a very prominent part in the Texas war, and was used as a fort. It stands on the bank of the San Antonio river, and overlooks the valley below. There are a great many Mexicans here, and I am learning to speak Spanish from them. I like Librarian's ideas

of unknown correspondence very much, and wish some of the cousins would write to me.

IDA R. WILSON, Berelair, Texas."

"I suppose I like to read as well as anyone in the U.S. I read anything that I can lay my hands on. I read novels, but I say emphatically that it will not do to read them months at a time; it would be ruinous to your mind, your mind would dwell on the exciting, blood-curdling stories, and it would be poisoned against good, solid reading. You could not interest yourself in good books. These blood-curdling stories should be let severely alone. But the above is nothing, when compared to the infernal habit of using tobacco. They use it in this country in every shape, form and manner, men and women, boys and girls. The children use it before they can walk almost. The law should take hold of it. It is a very bad habit, and we should all hit it a lick whenever we can, and get everyone to quit the filthy habit that we possibly can. I am always sorry for

acuress is with Auntie and her owls.

I receive so many letters of inquiry about the King's Daughters, that I have decided to answer them all by publishing an extract from one of Mrs. Bottome's talks, in a recent number of the "Ladies' Home Journal." Mrs. Bottome is the president of the Order in the U. S., and all information coming from her is authoritative. Leaflets, etc., will be sent to anyone sending stamp to the headquarters.

A FEW EXPLICIT DIRECTIONS.

I will give you explicit fleetions now as to what you should do so that you will not write "Tell me what I am to do?" You must be a member of our Order before you ever join any Circle; you can be enrolled as a member of the Order at our headquarters in New York City, 47 West Twenty-second street. Send your name and address there with ten cents, the membership fee, and there you can get your cross

membership fee, and there you can get your cross which is the badge of the Order. We are an incor-porated society and our silver cross is the seal of our

corporation. You are not obliged to wear this cross, but no other cross can be worn as our badge; though a bit of royal purple ribbon is an emblem of membership, and can be had at the same place, so you can wear either one or both; but, if you can afford it, I would advise you to have the cross; it will cost you but thirty cents, and that will make the total cost forty cents. There may be some who cannot afford the cross—I know women who write to me from away off on the frontier, and they really have no money, no paper, no stamps. Nothing has touched me more than to receive letters written by educated women who are hedged in by their present-environment so as to make it exceedingly difficult to get money enough requisite to write a letter, and yet they want to join our Order and wear this cross. I speak of this because if it comes to you to give, "in His Name," the little silver cross to one who cannot afford to buy one, I will see that your wishes are carried out.

"I noticed in the June number a letter from a young corporation. You are not obliged to wear this cross

I will see that your wishes are carried out.

"I noticed in the June number a letter from a young German of my age, expressing a desire to improve his knowledge of the English language by means of corresponding with the cousins. Now, I should like to improve my knowledge of the German language in like manner, and if Old Germany, as he styles himself, will write to me at my home, I will do my best to oblige him ir every possible way. Another thing which pleased me was to learn that our Aunt Minerva was a Christian Endeavorer. I am a member of the Y. P. S. C. E. and accompanied the delegate of my society part way on her trip from Rhode Island to Minneapolis in July. Your nephew in C. E.,

ARTHUR C. ALGER, 110 Brand St., Elmira, N. Y."
Josephine Henninger, Sedgwick, Kans, would like the address of the young man living in Mo. who sent her some drawings.

her some drawings.

"I wish to express my thanks to all the cousins who sent to me for lace samples. It was impossible to answer all those that had no stamps enclosed, as also to send samples to all that had, as the letters numbered about two hundred. To my knowledge I sent samples to all those that said they were poor, but if I have forgotten any, I will gladly answer them if they will write again with enclosed stamp. I would like to hear from some of the cousins engaged at stenography, Miss M. SCHONGER, North Branch, Sull. Co., N. Y." Now who can tell of a more curious bowe them.

Now who can tell of a more curious home than the following letter describes? Please come again, my sailor lassie, and tell us more of your floating life?

We would make an all day visit, the ships just as far apart as they could go without losing sight of sight of e a c hotherso

as to have a range of vision as possible. Perhaps sometimes we would raise whales right in the middle of the gam, and then such scampering as there would be for each crew to get back to their own vessel! If by combining forces there seemed to be a better chance of catching the whales, then the ships would 'mate,' or in other words, divide the work, and also the oil resulting from the catch. All the talking was of course carried on by flags; you have no idea how much can be said in that way when people know how. A. L. S.,

Box 335, Whitman, Mass."

(Correspondents solicited.)

in that way when people know how. A. L. S., in that way when people know how. A. L. S., (Correspondents solicited.)

"Seeing a request from you and several of the cousins asking about stamps, I thought I would write to you about them. How many different kinds do you suppose there are in the world? Well, a collector in Europe has over 22,000 varieties. The U. S. has about 1,900 varieties. The rare ones bring high prices. The New Haven 5c. red, 1845, is worth \$500.00 and used at that; many are worth as much. The first one issued by the U. S. was in 1847, 5 and 10c. The 5c. is worth only 25c., used. It is the variety not the age, that counts. The first stamp issued was the 1d red of Great Britain, 1840. The Prince of Wales, Duke of Edingburgh, Czar of Russia, and many other famous people are stamp collectors. On the stamps are men, women, horses, birds, bears, ships, stars and scores of other devices. Mr. T. K. Tapling, M.C., who has died lately, left a collection worth over \$500,000. I wish to correspondwith all of the cousins by my name. EARL MCDREW, Young, Tenn."

"I have traveled very nearly across this broad continent of ours in order to meet you all this month, and expect to have a very pleasant visit. I have really traveled all but 600 miles of the distance from ocean to ocean, but have seen no country or climate equal to our Willamette valley. We are a little north of the latitude of Halifax, and last winter we did not have an inch of snow altogether, nor ice thick enough for shating. I want to say a few words regarding collecting. How many of the cousins are there who are not collectors? You can have no idea of the amount of pleasure and profit to be derived from a collection of stamps, coins, relics, minerals or of many other things. There are some things which are collected however, which I hope none of the cousins collect, such as tobacco tags or birds' eggs. Where does the benefit come in, in collecting tags? As to birds' eggs, I am strongly opposed to anything which will tend to destroy our songsters ad COMPORT who would like to form a club for pur-ses of exchange and getting acquainted with others all parts of the country? I would like to have you I write and make suggestions.

W. F. Case, Box 83, Molalla, Oregon.

Yes, collecting has a fascination for almost every one; I have found that out in my own experience, as my little geological collection grows. It is a very instructive occupation for young people, when carried on in some directions, but I agree with my nephew in his protest against collecting birds' eggs and tobacco tags; the latter is foolish, the former wicked.

"Meadville is a beautiful little city, situated in a valley on the banks of the Cussewago river. It has a population of about 10,000 and is noted for its schools and colleges. At present, there is a great deal of excitement about natural gas, and many people are putting down wells on their premises. It seems to me that Wisconsin Wild Bill is rather hard on the girls. All flocks have their black sheep, and because one girl writes a letter not fit to be read, the rest should not be censured. I have corresponded with many young ladies, whose acquaintance was formed through the columns of papers, and never received one which I would be ashamed to have any one read. Why would it not be a good idea for the consins to ask questions of general interest, and have a little space given in the columns of the paper for the answers? Am sure we could learn much thereby. Being a prineter, must say that Comport is a well-printed and ably edited paper, and will prove a blessing wherever sent.

Does not Uncle Josephus' column very nearly fill this want, friend Como? And this letter speaking of your home, reminds me that I have some others in the same line; one from your own State, too.

"My home—nearly every newspaper reader in this broad land has heard of Scottdale—is nestled at the

your home, reminds me that I have some others in the same line; one from your own State, too.

"My home—nearly every newspaper reader in this broad land has heard of Scottdale—is nestled at the western part of the Allegheny Mountains of Penn, and is the center of the great Connellsville coke regions. It was but a short distance from here, on last January 27th, that the greatest mine explosion of ever known in the United States, if not in the world, occurred. In an instant one hundred and nine miners were hurled to their doom, by the explosion of treacherous fire damp. It was my sad duty to assist in coffining the victims, and it was indeed sad. In a long trench in one of our cemeteries lie eighty-nine of the victims. Not far from this trench is a smaller one, and here under the sod lie ten victims of the great strike, inaugurated in Feb. last and abandoned in June. Sixteen thousand men were idle and the loss of wages alone was nearly two millions of dollars. Nearly two thousand soldiers were in the coke region, a thousand being located in Scottdale. It was by the soldiers that these 10 men were shot, while trying to destroy property. It was only the presence of the brave boys in blue that checked the strikers from sacking the numerous towns, but the blue uniform, shining gun barrels and determined looks struck terror to the heart of the poor misguided foreign striker, a tool of the labor leader. Time up! taps, and Pm off. P. S. Cousins I will be always pleas ed to hear from you.

Here is a nephew who wants just a word more on the novel-reading question, and as it is a good word.

shining gun barrels and determined looks striker, a tool of the labor leader. Time up! t aps, and I'm off. P. S. Cousins I will be always pleased to hear from you.

BOYD, Lock-Box 684, Scottdale, Pa."

Here is a nephew who wants just a word more on the novel-reading question, and as it is a good word, we will hear it.

"Star of the South, you are right in saying 'go and burn those yellow backed bits of paper,' but do not condemn the good with the bad. All the life and feelings of young people fascinated by some glowing love romance, is colored and shaped by the books they read. If it is false and weak, they will be false and weak also. Therefore, do not cut off the supply of good literature. How many young men have spent their earnings in the grog shop who should be reading! How many parents who have not spent ten dollars for books, would give thousands to reclaim a son or daughter that has fallen into temptation. I say, parents have the best of books, papers and magazines in your library, though you wear your silk dress or coat a little longer, for nothing will compensate to your family for the absence of books such as Shakespeare and Irving, Thackeray and Dickens. Who will say that Mrs. Stowe's 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' has done no good? This single tale stirred the heart of this nation, while at the moving of her pen, millions of swords and bayonets gleamed in the air, and vast armies fought face to face till liberty was given to man as man. Dixie, if love is an imagination, all man and womankind must at some time of their lives be fools, and why do the fair sex receive the attention of fools? Is domestic love, the love for parents, brother and sister also an imagination, or where do you draw the lines? Maggie Wilson, why not warn your sisters of the fast young man and gambler? those who frequent the saloon, use big sounding oaths, drive fast horses and wear dashy garments? How often we hear from young ladies, 'He is only a little fast.' Young ladies, as life is precious and you value it, take no chances. One in t

bunkard were the street of the

"I agree with Mrs. E. L. and Mrs. Shellenberger, I have been married for three years, and know whereof I speak; any girl that gets married before her majority, will sooner or later rue it. I am very sorry for the 'Shut Ins' and extend to all my sympathy, as I have spent many years of my life upon a sick bed. While 'Shut Ins' and extend to all my sympathy, as I have spent many years of my life upon a sick bed. While so many are telling of droughts and of floods, verily I can say Central Michigan is highly favored, it was dry last summer, but crops were not a failure fand all have enough to eat and wear that have a mind to work for it; those that will not work do not deserve to have, I think, don't you dear Aunt? I cannot see why's some ladies fare always railing at the men; it would seem as though they never had brothers, father, husband, nor in fact any one that was near and dear to them except those of the feminine persuasion. Now for my part, I have seen some very good men, as I have traveled through this world, and also some very bad ones. This also I can say of the other sex, and I do think a really bad woman can put the worst man to shame that ever breathed. I have a son and husband; I once had a father and brother, and really, I can't see but they are just as good, kind, loving and considerate as those of the other sex. And if we don't mean it, why certainly stop it, for it is unwomanly and sounds very much like some school-girl.

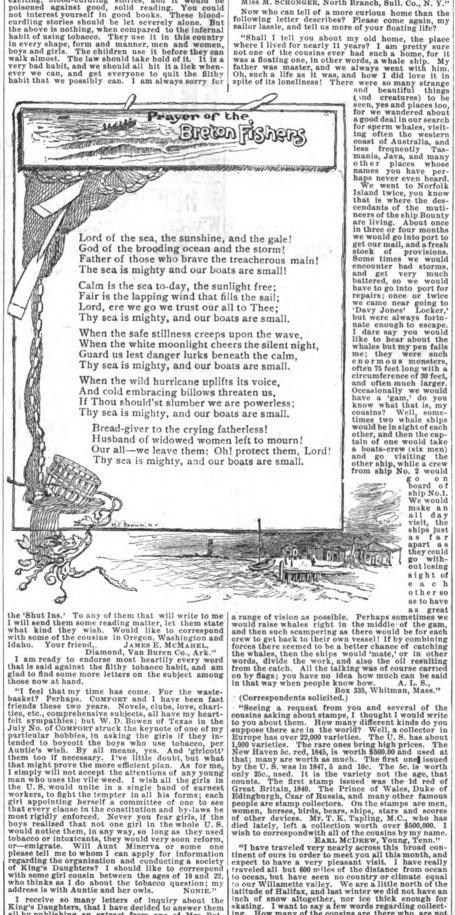
"He that will not work, neither shall he eat" I believe feat that the state of the state of the tother that the state of the state of the tother that the state of the state

school-girl.

"He that will not work, neither shall heav! I believe in that thoroughly. You are right in saying that "a bad woman can put to shame the worst man that ever breathed." It is a painful fact that when our sex do fall, they seem to seek the lowest depths of degradation; and they drag down son, brother and husband as well in their fall.

Here comes a friend with kind words for COMFOET, and some helpful hints for the mothers.

and some neipful hints for the mothers,
"I will say I think Compostra a proper name for our
paper. I haven't been a reader many months, yet I
have taken much comfort. Some say they like the
chats with Aunt Minerva best. I can't say which I
like best. I sometimes think Cousin Ceres is as good
as she can be; when I want to do some cooking, I am





THE DIFFERENCE

You say they're all alike? Perhaps you're right.

Now this one's eyes are wondrous bright,!
Her dimpled cheek is pink and round,
Her nose—alaem!—Her head is crowned
With soft brown fuzz. Her mouth's a rose,
She hath two hands and ten wee toes,
She laughs, she crows, she sometimes cries,]
And though she cannot talk she tries.
But then, you say, she's not unione

And though she cannot talk she tries.

But then, you say, she's not unique,
That other babies, so to speak,
Are just the same. Ah, well, to me,
This one's as different as can be—
I can't say how—but much incline
To think the difference is,
She's mine.
E. L. SYLVESTER.

sure I appreciate her very much. She is a great help to me with her many good things. Then dinner over and I have a little time to rest, I turn to Aunt Minerva and I am sure I get much comfort from the many good letters and Aunty's kind words. Then sometimes being in a mood to make something new, I turn to fancy work; I think it is splendid. So you see it takes all departments to make it perfect. And the children enjoy so much their corner. It would be a very strange person that couldn't be pleased with COMFORT; it is for old and young, high and low. I wish more of the cousins would give their method of training children and how to get them interested in studies and books. We never should promise a child a thing unless we keep the promise; if we do they are apt to lose faith in us and say, 'ob she only told me so and so for a purpose.' Never repeat things we hear in the presence of a child, as it sets a bad example for tale telling. Children are much more close listeners than they get credit for. We should be very careful if we repeat anything in the presence of a child, to repeat it just as ait was, If we get just a little way from the straight story, the child is apt to get in a habit of the same, and that habit will grow with the child until it eventually thinks it no harm to stretch the blanket just a little, for mamma didn't tell it quite like it was. Why don't we all sign our name to our letters instead of leaving it with Aunty? it certainly would make her less trouble. I will just say if I see this in print I will feel much the same as a small boy with his first pants (with pockets in them.)

Mrs. NETTIE ROAKS, Malvern, Mills Co., Iowa."

"We are given this beautiful world to live in; may we be led to strive more and more to emulate the

with his first pants (with pockets in them.)

Mrs. Nettie Boaks, Malvern, Mills Co., Iowa."

"We are given this beautiful world to live in; may we be led to strive more and more to emulate the glorious example of our Saviour. Let us see how much good we can accomplish. We have golden opportunities offered us through the columns of this paper. Sometimes I fear we do not sufficiently appreciate the blessings of these opportunities of ministering; so often the greatest help we can give others is love and sympathy. I am but a scholar in the school myself, trying to live the life that Christ would have us live. I am anxious to tell some of the cousins how nice their letters were. Maggie Wilson, yours was simply grand; you are not afraid to speak against intemperance, the greatest of all evils. If there were more like you, there would not be so many broken-hearted wives. Wisc. Wild Bill, I admire your nerve. You are a true gentleman to come out first of all the young men and say you are a Christian. God bless you. How I wish God had made me such a brother. T. D. Wallar, your letter was good, please write again. And oh there are so many others that I enjoyed reading so much. How I should like to meet you all.

LA GRIPPE.

LA GRIPPE. An ache in your back
As you toss in your bed,
An ache in your head
As if it would crack—
That's la grippe. That's la grippe.

A taste in your mouth
Like a buffalo coat,
A feeling you note
Of lameness and drout—
That's la grippe.

A burning sensation
That makes your eyes weep,
A struggle to keep
Back a vivid oration—
That's la grippe.

That's is grippe.

"I am a Christian, and oh how I do love to hear and read of others who are also followers of my dear Saviour. It cheers me on and gives me more courage to face the opposition of the world. I can say to Jeanie that I believe the happiest people are those who are living with the approving smile of God resting upon them. I have traveled for four years in missionary work and seen many converted, and did my health permit I would yet be in the field. I am alone, (yet not alone for Jesus is with me) and can say that He is dearer to me than all friends. I live in what is called the Stone City. a fourishing and are alone, (yet not atome to me than all friends. I live in say that He is dearer to me than all friends. I live in what is called the Stone City, a flourishing and aggressive city. Should be glad to have the cousins write to me.

W. A. K., 411 Washington St.,
Joliet, III."

"As I have never seen a letter from this place, I am here to ask for admittance in your happy circle of cousins. I will be pleased to give any information about Barbados to any one who will write me, in fact I solicit correspondence with my American cousins. It is one year since I have been taking Comport, and I really find it a comfort to look for my paper every month. With kind greetings from this far off place. I am your nephew. GEO. E. POYER. I am your nephew, GEO. E. POYER, O. Box 248, Bridgetown, Barbados, W. I."

"I am a tea agent, 21 years old, and a member of the Y, P. S. C. E. Now having made my bow, I should like to shake hands with every one of you, but can't do it you know. What a rumpus Wild Bill did kick up? Got a good talking to in the Oct. No., didn't he? Just what he deserved too. I've met a good many fellows who didn't think much of girls, and all that sort of thing, but those same fellows are so bashful they never get acquainted, and so don't know what they are talking about. People and things are just as you take them. If you growl all the while everyone will look at you cross-eyed, but if you have a pleasant smile and cheery word for persons you meet, you will find a jolly old world and you plump 'in it.' Buckeye Belle, let us not be afraid to do something or say a word for Jesus. Forget-me-not, you write the kind of letter I like to read, full of good strong common sense. Will some of the Western or Southern cousins write to me. May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from another, to meet at last in our home above, is the wish of Willis J. Clarke, Binghamton, N. Y."

That's it exactly! "People and things are just as you take them." Some one has said that the people we meet are all looking glasses, just a reflection of ourselves. "You cannot bring the best out of a man unless you believe the best is somewhere in him." The world is truly, in a sense, what we make it, and let us try to make it the very pleasantest, cheeriest place possible, both for ourselves and other people. With best wishes for all, Aunt Minerva, (Care of COMFORT.)

THE GRIP.

A new disease, like a new genius, has to struggle a long time for recognition. Thus, when the now celebrated but justily detested "grip" first made its appearance a few years ago it was regarded in many quarters, as a huge joke. In fact there were many skeptical enough to doubt its very existence. They declared it was a purely imaginary disease. But these were the people who escaped the disease. Those who chanced to fall its victims knew it was a very real disease, or else that they were possessed of unusually active imaginations.

The grip, like all epidemic diseases, manifests a very unchivalric tendency to attack people who are already ill. It seldom fastens itself upon an entirely healthy man. It delights to seize upon systems that are already weakened by disease or overwork. It is a germ disease. These germs exist everywhere in the air, while the disease is prevalent, and are breathed alike by the sick and the well. But a system that is strong and vigorous is usually impregnable against their attacks, while the system that is weak is liable to go down before the first assault.

So the way to escape the grip is to keep strong. But how? One lady in Rhode Island writes: "I was fearful that I would have the grip because I was all run down, but I took Oxien according to directions and the dreadful germs did not fasten upon me. I feel that without Oxien the grip would have taken me away."

A bad cold is the open doorway through which this unwelcome greest freeneathy.

that without dates the grip would have.

A bad cold is the open doorway through which this unwelcome guest frequently enters. Keep this doorway closed by an early use of Oxien. It will cure the symptoms easier than it can the disease and with more comfort to you, but if too late to catch the early symptoms, then take it for the disease and you will be pleased, relieved, cured.

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Prize to Every On

Who Can Solve This Four-Word Rebus O Before Saturday, March 26th, 1892



each of the next five. To the person who sends by mail the LAST ORRECT ANSW ER we will give \$75 Cash. To the next to the last \$50 cash. To the next five shows the sends a prizes we will give to EVERY FERSON who sends a correct answer a beautiful copy of THE LIFE of CHRIST and send it to you all charge prepaid by us. With your answer send 25 cents postage and advertising expenses. We make this unparalleled offer to introduce this splendid work of art, and to secure canvassers for it at every post office. You can make an average of \$5\$ to \$10 at all winter with it if you conclude to take the axency after receiving it. There is "BIG MONEY for YOU" in this. Address H. E. PAUL, Pablisher, Owing's Building, Chicago, Ili.

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given to the first persons who gives the correct answer to the following:

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the same Backward secure one task secure one as Forward! Ing Cash Prizes:
To the First correct answer, cash \$200
To the Second " 100
To the Second

Total Prizes in Cash, \$725

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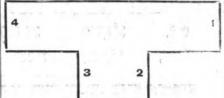
Good-morning, sister Bees! it seems to me that I see a good many vacant chairs to-day; what is the meaning of that? Perhaps some stayed at home because we are going to knit at this session; but they will be very sorry when they know what pretty things we have learned to make.

Did you all bring your needles? Cousin

to make.

Did you all bring your needles? Cousin Drone, just hand me that long box from the upper closet shelf—(whisper it, Bees, but an old corset box is just the nicest thing to keep knitting needles in) and we will soon have all provided with the necessary weapons. Excuse me, Sister Kate, but what were you going to say?

provided with the necessary weapons. Excess
me, Sister Kate, but what were you going to
say?
"Can some one tell me how to make a hugme-tight? Cousin Lou had one given her at
Christmas, and we have vainly tried to study
out how it is done. They are such comfortable
and convenient things."
"Yes indeed they are," says Prairie Rose,
"and I can tell you just how, for I made two
this very winter. Are there any wooden needles
in the box, Busy Bee? we want a pair about the
size of a small lead pencil. To make one like
mine, takes about two skeins of Germantown,
or four balls of Dorcas knitting yarn. Cast on
58 stitches; knit across and back, garter stitch,
until you have 58 ridges. Then cast on 58
stitches more, knit 58 ridges with these 116
stitches. Bind off (loosely) 58 stitches, and
knit 58 ridges with the 58 stitches remaining.
Bind off, and you will have a piece in this
shape: shape:



Join the edges numbered 1 and 2 together, and those numbered 3 and 4, by sewing loosely with the yarn. Crochet scallops around the neck and arm-holes, and tie with ribbons in front These are very warm, and convenient to wear under a shawl or jacket."

"I like these practical patterns," says Mrs. E. B. L., and if the Bees would like, I will teach them to make

them to make

SHELL WORK WRISTLETS.

Use two shades if you wish of single zephyr, it takes from 1 to 1 and 1-2 ounces for a pair.

Cast on with the worsted double (in double stitches) 27 on two needles, 18 on the third; 9 stitches form 1 shell, 8 shells the usual size for a lady's wrist, 9 for a gentleman's (unless very large wrist), do not knit around plain, but with a single thread seam 2, knit 1, widen by throwing over thread, narrow, continue thus around the wristlet.

2d row.—Seam 2, knit 2 (that includes the loop made by widening), widen, knit 3, narrow, 3d row,—Seam 2, knit 3, widen, knit 2, narrow, etc.

etc.
4th row.—Seam 1, knit 4, widen, knit 1, nar-

4th row.—Seam 1, knit 4, widen, knit 1, narrow, etc.
Fifth and last row.—Seam 2, knit 5, widen, narrow; this forms one row of shells, then set in another shade of worsted if you like and begin at the first row, bind off on the last row of shells at the last row, be sure and not knit plain), but seam, knit, narrow, as usual, binding each stitch over the last. When you knit the first time around, take the stitches double, making 72.

"You are right Sister Rea" remarks Mrs. H.

ing each stitch over the last. When you knit the first time around, take the stitches double, making 72.

"You are right, Sister Bee," remarks Mrs. H., "I just want to say right here how much I enjoy our talks, and I consider Maggie May's practical directions for combination suit which she gave us not long ago, well worth the price of Comfort for a year. To be sure, I shall not be able to try them this winter, for it would be summer before I could get them done; but they will be just the thing when I get a taste of the shivers next year. Now don't you want to put up your knitting a few minutes, and let me tell you about some pretty things that you can make? It is too late for Christmas, I know, but there are always birthdays coming, and an idea for a pretty little present never comes amiss.

For such of you as have picked up flowers and leaves in your midsummer rambles and put them away in books, the following is very nice. Take half a dozen sheets of heavy creamlaid note paper unruled, and mount flowers and leaves on them very neatly with slips of gummed med paper, arrange in plants on one side of the page only. When your half dozen sheets have 2 arrangements each all mounted, write the names, date of gathering and place of gathering at foot of page. Now, get some water color paper and make covers; then with a punch make holes at the back of the little book and lace with cord or narrow ribbon. As a finishing touch, take gold paint and make a straggly vine on the cover, and put Bits of Wisconsin Woods' on it in quaint letters. When done you have a very pretty present for a friend who lives in some other State, only substitute the name of whatever State the leaves are gathered in in place of Wisc. on cover.

Very pretty pen wipers are made by taking blue and gold plush and making tiny jockey caps, putting some bits of kid or chamois skin inside to wipe the pen on. Very nice for a school girl or boy

For an invalid friend get some elean white sand and make a good sized bag of strong cloth. Fill partly with the sa

brick neatly covered with bright cloth, with a ribbon to lift it by, very handy. Also a case for her knitting needles and darning needles. Just make a square of some suitable material and line. Make pockets for the knitting needles and leaves for the darning needles, fold and tie with ribbons sewn at the edge.

The noisy small boy will like a pair of lines, knit garter stitch, with straps to go over the shoulders, and plenty of bells.

These all have one good point, they are inexpensive and if you are all situated like me, it will be the principal point."

"Some one was asking for a knitted stripe for a bed spread, was it you, Queen Bee?" asks Mrs. L. W. Palmer. "I have a very pretty one, and also a simple edging, which I will teach the Bees if they would like.

STRIP FOR KNITTED SPREAD. brick neatly covered with bright cloth, with

Cast on 21 stitches. Knit across plain.
1st row.—K 3, p 7, k 1, p 7, k 3.
2d.—K 4, o, k 5, o, slip 1, n, pass slip stitch over, o, k 5, o, k 4.
3d.—K 3, p 17, k 3.
4th.—K 4, o, k 1, n, p 1, n, k 1, o, p 1, o, k 1, n, p 1, n, k 1, o, k 4.
6th.—K 3, p 4, k 1, p 3, k 1, p 4, k 3.
6th. K 4, o, k 1, n, p 1, n, k 1, p 1, k 1, n, p 1, n, k 1, o, k 4.

7th.—K 3, p 4, k 1, p 2, k 1, p 2, k 1, p 4, k 3. 8th.—K 4, o, k 1, o, n, p 1, n, p 1, n, p 1, n, o, k

8th.—R. 4, 0, 2 4, 5, 1, p 1, k 1, p 1, k 1, p 5, k 8.

10th.—K 3, p 5, k 1, p 1, k 1, p 1, k 1, p 5, k 8.

10th.—K 4, 0, k 3, 0, slip 1, n, pass slip stitch over, p 1, slip 1, n, pass slip stitch over, 0, k 3.

0, k 4, repeat.

PEARL EDGE LACE.
Cast on 14 stitches, knit across plain.
1st row.—O, k 1, o, k 2, n twice, k 2, o, n, o, n

1.
2d, 4th, 6th and 8th rows.—Purled.
3d.—O, k 3, o, k 1, n twice, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 1.
5th.—O, k 5, o, n twice, o, n, o, n, k 1.
7th.—O, k 3, n, k 2, o, n, o, n, o, n, k 1.
Repeat from 1st row.

"I am so glad to get that bedspread pattern! I have been wanting it for a long time," exclaims Mrs. Lane.
"Nobody has said anything about tidies," remarks Nellie from her rocker, "but if any one wants to learn how to make a

PRETTY WORSTED TIDY

PRETTY WORSTED TIDY
just come over here.

This tidy is knit in stripes. It requires 2 coarse steel needles, 2 skeins of garnet Germantown yarn and 1 and 1-2 skeins of old gold.

Cast on 22 stitches, knit across plain, purl back and so on, until you have knit across 10 times. Now just reverse this and knit 10 times the same as before. This makes it in rows across the stripe, one row plain, the other purled and so on until you have the length you want your tidy. Then bind off 6 stitches, drop 2, bind off 6, drop 2, and bind off the last 6. Now ravel the stitches dropped to the end of the stripe. You want 3 stripes of garnet and 2 of old gold. Crochet them together and fringe the edges. This makes a very pretty tidy and anyone who can knit the heel of a stocking can knit it without any trouble. When you crochet the stripes together, have the plain row come opposite the purl. This is easily done, as there is no right nor wrong side. Now please try this little edging. is no right no: little edging.

WHEAT EAR EDGE.
Cast on 5 stitches, knit across plain.
1st row.—Knit 2, thread over, knit 1, thread
ver twice, seam 2 together.
2d.—Thread over twice, seam 2 together, knit

3d.—K 3, thread over, k 1, thread over twice, seam 2 together.
4th.—Thread over twice, seam 2 together, k 5.
5th.—K 4, thread over, k 1, thread over twice, seam 2 together.
6th.—Thread over twice, seam 2 together, k 6.
7th.—K 6, thread over twice, seam 2 together.
8th.—Thread over twice, seam 5 together, k 3.
Repeat from 1st row.

Good-bye, sister Bees! rext time we will have ever so many pretty things totalk about, I hope. Address all letters for this column to Busy Bee, (Care of COMFORT Pub Co.)

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THIS is the anniversary month of my return to my accustomed place in Comport, after an absence of several months, and to say that we have had a pleasant and profitable year together, one which I am certain on my part has been delightful is certainly the case. I can look back at each month's work with you, and feel that I should be sorry to have missed one of the twelve meetings which we have had. I receive daily many letters from the young folks asking me to make our talks more in the conversational style and this month we will try that plan, and I want to hear from all those who have made the request as to how they are pleased with the change. This month then no names or addresses will be used, and each one while reading our department will come upon the answer to his or her questions in some cases unexpectedly. And that leads me to say that quite a number of answers have been received as to the best means of stopping the squeaking in shoe soles, which is caused by the rubbing together of two layers of the same, and my idea is that the most practical way named is to have your shoemaker put in a few pegs of wood around over the surface of the sole which will prevent this friction and the very unpleasant noise accompanying the same, especially when going up the aisle of a church a few minutes late on Sunday morning, as you well know this attracts the attention of all present, and in this connection I must say a few words in regard to making ourselves attractive to others. We must in every way especially by our gentle manners endeavor to make ourselves so pleasing in the sight of our friends that they will always be glad to have us in their presence. An old saying and a good one is "Children should be seen and not heard," as was the case a short time ago. Your Aunt and Uncle were invited out to dinner, and there lives at the home of our friends a little girl who is about ten years old, and a young lady about seventeen, and it was a surprise to both of use of the requirement of the younger child, and the very anno

ments of our nineteenth century, and in that way make yourselves entertaining, and your conversation agreeable to those who have been less fortunate in the advantages of a classical education.

Have due respect for the poor although you may be rich yourself, remembering that the wheel of time continually revolves and you may not going on the theory that owing a debt will be an incentive to more diligent application and greater exertions to earn money to pay it with, for we are apt to think when we have the money on hand that we will spend that for some seemingly needed article, and let our friend who has given us the accommodation, wait a little longer for his money. Never get into arguments with your friends, which are liable to the member always that many persons are liste the old Negro who said he "fiked to get into a squabble for the sake of Argy," but always when in a company and good principles are being discussed, strenuously maintain them. And by all means never shirk any duty however hard a task it may seem to perform it, and you will have nothing to fear either in this world or the world to come. And I would advise you if you have allways learned on you Father's parts for yourselves a competence and a reputation which shall ever be a shining star to which you can look and not hesitate to press on in the same direction, as was the case with many of our great men in the past one hundred years, and the old main. "If at first you don't succeed try, try again" is applicable here. If you take a step toward being a writer do not be baffled and discouraged and driven out of the race become many print and you would always on if you have always the case with many of our great men in the past one hundred years, and the old main in the past one hundred years, and the old main in the past one hundred years, and the old main of the past one hundred years, and the old main of the past one hundred years, and the old main of the past one hundred years, and the old main of the past one hundred years, and the old main o

a shorthand writer, do not allow any obstacle, however insurmountable it may seem, to change your course, press steadily and studiously on, and Success, that most charming of Godesses, will meet you halfway up the hill, and will give you a helping hand at every upward step. She is waiting to assist you and your own endeavors will decide how much help she will give you.

She is waiting to assist you and your own endeavors will decide how much help she will give you.

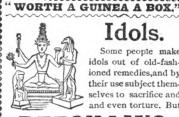
According to promise I will now make known the nature of the Contest for this month, and for the best answers to the same which shall reach my hands on or before the first day of April, 1892, I will award one of the beautiful new and attractive photograph cameras post paid, which are advertised in January issue of Comfort. As I said when I first mentioned this contest, all are eligible if subscribers to Comfort. and I will be pleased to have thousands of letters. Now one and all get out your geography's and write me your choice of a "Route around the World." Take the date of February 1st, 1892, and leave New York at 12 o'clock noon, giving me the lines of steamships and railroads over which you would travel to make the trip, and the number of days required, as also the probable cost of the whole trip, closing with the hour of arrival in New York on the return. Could there be any more pleasant manner in which to pass one of these long winter evenings and certainly a very instructive pastime. Let me hear from you early and the decision shall appear with the copy of the best or Prize letter in the May number of Comfort. Make the trial for the prize even though you do not win it, for it will help you to burnish up some of the countries of the old world in your memory, and if you do win it will give you an article which will afford you many hours of pleasure in the delightful summer days so soon to come, and you can undoubtedly with your camera for a sample sell a large number of them, thereby making a good profit.

Here I present a picture of little Polly who is sitting before me on the cricket with her brother



POLLY'S PICTURE.

They tell me this is Polly; Well, well—I do declare! It does resemble Polly's eyes And here's her curly hair. The nose is shaped a little bit Like Polly's, I confess; And just as sure as anything This looks like Polly's dress. But after all it can't be true, (Unless the child is ill,) For who, I pray thee, ever saw Our Polly sitting still?



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MY DEAR YOUNG PRIENDS:

Let me see, this is the month when George Washington was born, isn't it? Now don't be afraid, I am not going to tell that old hatchet story, so you need not be getting out your chestnut bells. I was only wondering, suppose some of my boys here were placed in just such a difficult and important position as George Washington found himself, would they be as faithful to their duty? There is one thing sure; no one can be faithful in great things, who has not been faithful to all the little duties which come to him right along every day. Remember that, my boys who mean to be President some day!

Then there was something else about George Washington which was more noble than his statesmanship, more rare than his military genius; he loved, respected and obeyed his mother. When a man grown, he bowed in deference to her wishes always, and never failed to treat her with the utmost respect and affection. Remember that too, boys and girls who think you are getting too old to do what mother says. You may not believe it, but 'its true nevertheless, that 'a boy's best friend is his mother," and she doesn't come far from being a girl's best friend, either. Some of you realize that now, and the rest will come to the knowledge some time, perhaps too late.

And this month you send valentines, too. I hope that I shall not hear of any of my boys and girls sending a comic (?) valentine, and especially to his teacher, same as I saw them doing last season, as our artist has sketched below.

Now I have preached enough for once; and we will have the letters. I am going to hear from the little

same as I saw them doing last season, as our artist has sketched below.

Now I have preached enough for once; and we will have the letters. I am going to hear from the little folks first this time.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little girl about 11 years old. I have a tame chicken named Hiram. We had just got one of our stoops painted brown, and as Hiram was in the habit of coming in the house, that day he walked in across the stoop and left the prints of his feet. We live about a rod from the woods, and one time we went to feed the chickens, and a chipmunk came out and ate some corn with the hens.

Your niece,

You did not tell me what State you live in, Estella, so I could not ask the girls to write to you as you wished. Next time don't forget your address, will you?

which overlooks the river. There are 5 rooms in this school and I am in the fourth. I am piecing a crazy patch quilt, and a calico one called the Beggars quilt, but I don't succeed very well. Mama tells me I will never accomplish anything unless I finish one thing at a time. LUELLA M. HARDER, Marsetles, Ills."

but I don't succeed very well. Mama tells me I will never accomplish anything unless I finish one thing at a time. Luella M. Harder, Marseilles, Ills."

Yes, Mary, you know I think that you are right. Always go to your mother with everything, and never allow your confidence in her to be broken in the least. Dear Aunt Minerva:—I wish to join with the other cousins in writing about our homes, pets, etc. I had better tell you first that I live on a farm in the northern part of Iowa, on the beautiful banks of Beaver Creek, about 11-2 miles from the village of Plymouth. I am 12 years old. My brother and I walk to school every day. When I come home from school, I help do the chores. We have 6 horses, 6 cows, 2 calves and 24 hogs, about 100 chickens and 55 acres of land. We have only lived on the farm 5 years. There are lots of rabbits around here. We mostly raise corn and potatoes, and we also raise large watermelons that weigh 37 lbs. I have to hoe in the garden.

Your new nephew, OSCAR W. WALLROFF, Plymouth, Iowa.

Dear Aunt:—I will try and write you and the cousins another letter. I wrote one sometime ago but never saw it in print. Mother and I are lonesome since father died. I live in Ark, not a very pretty country. I saw in Comfort that you invite all older boys and girls to write. I reckon you would let me in, as I am just 18. I am not a boy, though. I wish some of the cousins were here to go with me to singing. We have right good singing once a month. Some of you Tenn. cousins come over some Sunday and enjoy it, too. I would like to correspond with any of the cousins. I will answer all letters and tell you all about this rough part of Ark. Aunt. come some day and stay all day and eat fried chicken and garden stuff with us; wouldn't you like it? Hoping to hear from all the cousins I am as ever.

Your new niece, Johnnie. When I start out on my pligrinage among my nieces and nephews I shall certainly stop to see you, and hope that tried chicken will be "on deck." You must tell



Dear Auntie:—I hope you will accept me as one of your nieces. I am a little girl 7 years old. My mama has been taking Comfort for 2 years and she says she could not get along without it. She did not know how she would pay for it last fall when the paper was due, so my little brother and myself gathered chestnuts and sold them and gave mama the money so she could renew the paper. Don't you think that was wise? We are very poor. I have a good, kind, hard-working father whom I love dearly, 2 brothers and 2 little sisters. When mama was sick I did all the work. I can wash, iron, sweep, scrub and wash dishes. I wish some of the little cousins would send me some pretty picture cards, and you too Aunty, please don't forget me. May God bless and keep you in good health is the sincere wish of your poor little niece.

MARY GRANTZ, Milltown, Crawford Co., Ind.

I think you and your brother were very smart little

I think you and your brother were very smart little tolks, to get the money for your mama to take Com-FORT. She ought to enjoy it very much.

"I am a little girl 10 years old and I live in the Salt River Valley 7 miles from Phoenix. This is a beautiful place to live; we do not have any snow here, but our eyes feast on lovely flowers all the year round; it is like lovely spring all winter. All kinds of fruits grow here. We have nice orange trees in our yard; and they raise large quantities of wheat and barley here too.

Zada Hill, Phoenix, Arizona."

Dear Auntie: —I aw a little girl I very all d. Levelle.

and they raise large quantities of wheat and barley here too.

ZADA HILL, Phenix, Arizona."

Dear Auntie:—I am a little girl il years old. I walk one mile and a half to school. Never missed a day or was late a morning, the last term of 3 months. We live a mile from Otter Tail City, or which was once a city, but now only one family live there; they keep a hotel and the P. O. there. They live on the stage line between Perham and Battle Lake, 15 miles from each place. Your new niece,

SADIE FRANCIS, Otter Tail Co., Minn.

Dear Auntie:—As mama is writing, I thought I would write too and tell you what I have for pets. I would write too and tell you what I have for pets. I have 2 little calves; their names are mike and Johnny. I can drive them now. I have a dog whose name is Coolie. He will stay at the sugar-house all day to get sugar to eat; he doesn't eat much but sweet stuff. I live close by the lake; we have nice times in winter, skating and sliding. Last winter we had 108 days of good sleighing. I went to school 20 weeks, and walked 3 miles most of the time; can any of the cousins beat that? I was Il years old last August.

CARLOS D. WILSON, West Fairlee, Vt.

Well done, Carlos! I am sure you and Sadie Franches.

Well done, Carlos! I am sure you and Sadie Fran-cis must like to go to school, or you would not walk so far. So your dog eats sugar. I have a cat who will eat molasses candy; what do you think of that?

Now the older boys and girls must have their turn. "I am 13 years old and go to the public school, Marseilles is a quiet little village on the Illinois river. There are high bluffs on the north and south sides of the river. There are only 3 schools, and the public school to which I go is on a beautiful bluff me what is the best time of year to come.
Good-bye, love and best wishes to all from
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The Curse of the Chessmeres. A STRANGE STORY.

The gentleman, Mr. Randall Chessmere, fived with his wife and three children in a beautiful country mansion four miles from the metropolis. He was very wealthy and a more luxurious home than Oak Hall—such was the name of his estate—I never set foot in. All that taste could suggest and money buy went to furnish the mansion, which resembled an eastern monarch's palace, with heavy Persian carpets, magnificent pictures, and rare articles of cirtu on every side. The house stood in its own grounds, and was embowered in huge oak trees from which the place took its name.

The family knew of my sad circumstances and had great sympathy for me, and treated me very kindly, more as if I was a guest rather than a servant. My duties were light and pleasant, being to teach the three children of my employers, two girls and a boy, bright, lovable little people, whom it was a pleasure rather than a task to instruct. They gave me no trouble whatever and we spent many a happy day together in the nursery. Thus the time passed until our little family circle was increased by a new arrival. This was Royal Chessmere, my employer's brother, who after a prolonged tour abroad, had now returned to make his home under his brother's hospitable roof until he should marry and set up an establishment of his own. A very welcome addition he proved, for he was a merry-tempered, handsome young fellow of about thirty, who banished every feeling of gloom by his delightful stories and descriptions of things and places he had seen in his travels.

Many a delightful evening did we spend in the winter time clustered about the large open fireplace in the parlor of Oak Hall, where the ruddy firelight threw a red glow on our faces which were turned eagerly towards Royal, who was amusing us with his bright stories and ancedotes. I must confess I was greatly interected in Royal Chessmere and studied him a great deal, and though he always gave the apparance of a merry. light-hearted man, who had not a care in the world to trouble him, yet, at times, I noticed h

for Royal, who had probably been awaiting such a chance, to declare his passion. Of course, I accepted him, as I loved him as much as he loved me, and we were married a year after.

We had a merry wedding, for my employer now relative, would not hear of a quiet marriage such as Royal and I desired, and they gave a grand supper and reception to their neighboring friends and acquaintances in our honor. It was a memorable and happy event for me, but I was tired enough when the last speech had been spoken and toast drank, and our guests had departed. So, after bidding Mr. and Mrs. Chessmere good night, my husband and I sought our bed-chamber at once.

I was so tired I could hardly keep my eyes open and disrobing at once got into bed, falling into a sound slumber almost immediately. The last thing I remember ere I was bound fast in slumber's chain was gazing through my half-closed eye-lids and seeing my husband seated near the fire, leisurely divesting himself of his garments and looking at me with a strange, sorrowful look.

How long I slept I could not tell but I awoke with a peculiar feeling of dread oppressing medread of I know not what. The room was plunged in gloom except for a partial illumination made by the fire in the grate, which was now fast dying out in a mass of dark red embers and faintly lighting the room with a ruddy glow. My husband was laying beside me, but his slumber seemed unnaturally profound. He was so still that I could not even hear him breathe.

But thinking him like myself tired after the events of the day and sleeping unusually sound after them I paid no more attention to him and fell asleep again. When I awoke again it seemed as if my slumber had been very brief. The fire was entirely out and the room as dark as the tomb. But I could see my husband sleeping beside me as still as before, and he seemed to be pale and rigid, looking with the white bed clothes around him, I thought with a heeling of terror, exactly like a corpse laid out in the cerements of the grave. I was nervous and to a

sprang on the floor, and groping to the mantel-shelf, struck a match and lit the gas, allowing a flood of light to illuminate every nook and corner of the apartment, glancing as I did so at the clock. It was ten minutes to one.

Then I rushed to the bed I had just quitted, and throwing aside the bed clothes, looked at my husband. Never to my dying day will I forget the terrible sight I saw. My husband was laying in the bed, rigid as a corpse and the hue of death on his face, his eyes wide open and gazing in horror up into mine.

"He is dead!" I wailed in anguish and swooned dead away.

When I recovered my senses, to my bewilderment I found myself in my husband's arms and felt his kisses upon my lips.

"Oh! Royal," I exclaimed. "God be praised. You are alive after all and I was only dreaming."

"Alas!" he said, with a sob, "you were not

The Curse of the Chessineres.

A STARMOE STONY.

When I was a young girl of nineteen, just verging into womanhood, a misfortune before the property of the control of of

the almost incredible story my addition.

"Oh! Mabel, my darling; forgive measure in the said, in broken accents, "for the trouble unwittingly brought upon you. You have heard my story, and if you wish you can leave me at once. I give you your freedom and shall not hinder you if you take advantage of it."

"No, no, Royal," I sobbed, "I love and pity you from the bottom of my heart and will never leave you."

Years have passed since then and the opinion expressed by the medical men as to the beneficial men as to the beneficial men as to the semi-

expressed by the medical men as to the beneficial results of marriage on my husband bid fair to prove true, but as long as I live I will never forget the terror of that awful experience on my wedding night in the bridal-chamber at Oak Hall.

WARD'S INFANT.

Charles Ward was broken-hearted; his sweet coung wife was dead, in his passionate anguish ne was almost demented, and to his sister's

Charles Ward was broken-hearted; his sweet young wife was dead, in his passionate anguish he was almost demented, and to his sister's different to prevent my going there and getting May, and bringing her back in my arms? She is mine; no one has a right to interfere. I can all lay her on her bed and kiss her again, and smooth her hair when I like. The house will not be so horribly lonely then!"

"Charles," she exclaimed, breathlessly, "you must go abroad; it will not do for you to stay here. You will lose your mind. I." she hesitated, frowned, "I will take care of the child." The faint wail of a week-old infant followed her words.

"I don't think I care much for the child." Said the young father, in a hollow voice.

Mrs. Clark made no reply; she was not fond of children herself.

"I will take the babe home with me and you must go to France with Fred."

This arrangement was finally made. Charles ward went abroad with his sister's stepson, Fred Clark, and she took the child to the Palms, as her country-seat was called.

Everybody seconded Mrs. Clark's advice, and allowing that what everybody approved must be right. Ward made his arrangements for the change in a silent, spiritless way, at the last asking, as if he had hitherto forgotten it, to see the child. The sister brought it; it was very tiny for a fortnight-old baby, looking smaller even than at its birth.

"I don't think it will live," said Ward, in the same hollow, monotonous voice he had used since May died.

Mrs. Clark thoughtfully swathed the baby again in its flannels, perhaps if Charles didn't go away but remained and grew anxious over the child, it would be better for him.

She idolized her brother, was very proud of him. She began to consider that she would have him more to herself, since the pretty young wife of whom she had been jealous was gone. But all arrangements were perfected; they had been made by her counsel, and she held her peace.

In the same black garb in which she attended pretty May's funeral, she descended from the carriage and ascen

mazed to find that when I touched him he was seed as marble.

Mrs. Clark sprang back, a look of aversion New thereoghty surprised and alarmed I upon her features.

"Oh horrors! she will be a fright, a monstrosity!"

"It's a great affliction, surely; but perhaps a doctor can cure her."

Mrs. Clark left the nursery. But every day she came several times and looked at the baby. She had a letter from its father. The sea voyage had benefited his health. He had been warmly welcomed by many people; he would probably remain abroad several years.

The child's countenance was growing unsightly as the film thickened over its eyes. There could be no doubt that it was a case of cataract; it didn't need a doctor to confirm what was evident to the most casual observer.

Mrs. Clark was shocked and passionately rebellious against this unlooked-for affiction. She had been a Ward, and the Wards had all been noted for their beauty.

She had expected that Charlie's child would inherit the family comeliness and grace. Instead, why, she would be hideous!

Mrs. Clark had heard of people having this deformity removed; but it most generally returns. Had not the eyes always an unpleasant expression. And babe was such an unpeaceful, ailing creature. Better it were dead, she declared.

Be had a second letter from Charlie, and this time he asked for special tidines of the

sining creature. Better it were dead, she declared.

She had a second letter from Charlie, and this time he asked for special tidings of the child. She wrote him it was ill.

She seldom went to the nursery now. Her baby cried constantly, as if it knew and rebelled against its fate.

Mrs. Clark fancied she heard it when she could not, in her distant apartments. The infant became a nightmare to her. She didn't try to conceal from herself that she hoped it would die.

She brooded over the matter day and night.

try to conceal from herself that she hoped it would die.

She brooded over the matter day and night. Her brain became overcharged. Charlie might marry again and have beautiful children. This one should not inherit the vast Ward fortune. It is wron,—mere weakness and folly—to allow an accident of birth to, vampire like, suck all the happiness from her brother's life. The child was not ill enough to die. It would live and gain a hold in the world, and this must be prevented before too late.

One morning Mrs. Clark entered the nursery. "Get the child ready as soon as you can," she said to the nurse. "I am going to take it into the country to board, where it will do better."

She was already partly dressed for traveling and in an hour took the baby away.

In two days she returned home, and wrote to her brother that the air of the Palms not agreeing with his child, she had sent it to the seaside to nurse.

Mrs. Clark supped layuriously that night and

ing with his child, she had sent it to the seaside to nurse.

Mrs. Clark supped luxuriously that night, and while she slept, Patrolman King, following a faint wailing, descended an area in a dark and narrow street of Albany, stumbled over a bas-

narrow street of Arona, ket.

"A kid, by gingo!"

The captain of the police station was very busy with his telegraph despatches when King entered, but he looked up at the faint, quivering cry which proceeded from the patrolman's basket. "Another," he said.

"This one is blind," answered the man in a low voice.

voice.

He uncovered the basket, and the portly captain rose and looked over the railing of his table at the pitiful atom turning its sightless orbs from side to side, and seeking nourishment with gaping mouth and weak cries. Nothing living could have been more helpless and miserable.

"It's nigh about dead with cold," said King, "Umph! give it to the matron. Take it to the hospital in the morning if it is alive."

Captain Hurd was not a talking man, but an expression of sadness passed briefly over his iron face.

expression of sadness passed briefly over his iron face.

There was a sick woman and a stray child in the matron's room. The latter was a large, fair woman with a quiet face.

"What have you there, a foundling?"

King nodded.

She took the basket and raised the child.

"A blind haby, and only a few weeks old!

Left in a basement this chilly night? Well, there are some nice people in this world."

"Isn't liked enough for anyone to want, you see," said King, lingering to see the waif laid on the matron's lap before the fire, and tiny hands covered with her own warm palms. "Fill just step into the kitchen and see that Jim gets some hot milk directly. Shall I?"

"Yes."

The sick woman who lay on the setter lifted.

"Yes."
The sick woman who lay on the settee lifted her head from the pillow.
"No mother ever did that," she said.
"I don't know," said the matron. "There are strange women as well as men."
In the morning the babe was living and was taken to the hospital.

In the morning the babe was living and was taken to the hospital.

Fate has strange chances.

When Charles Ward returned from Europe he didn't, as Mrs. Clark expected, look about him for a second wife. The one woman he had loved was dead.

The letter from his sister, bearing tidings that his child was dead, was an old one when he again entered his home. It was not strange, he knew, that a motherless infant should die; but the sad news had given him a pang. And then he believed that he had worn suffering out.

For the next fifteen years he devoted himself to business and amassed a large fortune.

About eight years after his return, he was urged to become one of the directors of an orphan asylum.

Among the destitute children brought in was a little girl, very frail and sensitive. But he thought her very beautiful, and to Mrs. Clark's intense displeasure adopted her.

"Who is she?" she asked coldly.
"She has been a friendless waif with an unknown history. She is now my daughter. She is one of the few children I can love. I see no reason why I should deny myself the pleasure of cherishing her," Ward replied rather sternly for his relations with his sister were not (of late) always harmonious.

"I know the secret of your taking such a step. The child looks like May," she replied with a severe glance.

He forgot, in his pleasure, to resent her words.

The calld looks like slay," she replied with a severe glance.

He forgot, in his pleasure, to resent her words.
"Do you see it?"
"I thought so. May shall be her name," and he took the little girl between his knees and kissed her.

Henceforth his defrauded heart overflowed thenceforth his defrauded heart overflowed.

he took the little girl between his knees and kissed her.

Henceforth his defrauded heart overflowed upon the child. She grew up a modest, sweet violet of a girl, utterly unspoiled by indulgence and luxury. But Mrs. Clark never liked her for growing more and more to look like the mother of the cruelly abandoned baby.

Mrs. Clark had strictly justified herself in taking this extreme step; but her hair was gray and she had aged in appearances greatly. For she was a young woman when her brother's wife died.

Her stepson had married; her husband had

wife died.

Her stepson had married: her husband had lost his money and died, and she was installed the mistress of her brother's home when May was adopted. The latter could not like her, but she delighted her father.

She loved young Dr. Glen, too. And why not, since he was her lover, and as fine and ardent a young fellow as could well be. Ward approved the union and the young girl's life was very bright and beautiful.

Then came a catastrophe and all the horrors

bright and beautiful.

Then came a catastrophe and all the horrors of sudden death. Charles Ward was thrown from his carriage and killed.

No will could be found.

Mrs. Clark put in a claim for the whole of her brother's property, and, by the aid of un-

scrupulous lawyers, seemed likely to get it."

"An adopted child does not inherit unless by a special provision," she said boldly to May. The young girl was bitterly grieved.
"Papa didn't intend it so. He loved me. He would not leave me penniless," she declared.
"I can give you a good home, my darling, not quite so luxurious as this, but with all comforts," said young Dr. Glen.
"It is not that. Papa is wronged. He meant this house, which sheltered my childish head to be my home as long as I lived. He has often told me so."

offits," said young Dr. Gien.

"It is not that. Papa is wronged. He meant this house, which sheltered my childish head to be my home as long as I lived. He has ofter told me so."

Mrs. Clark's conduct was insufferable. At every turn she insulted May, called her an intruder, a beggar, an outcast, whom her brother had benevolently harbored.

The poor girl was wild with pain; but she kept the worst of her suffering from her lover. One day he entered the house and begged to take May out.

"I don't care to drive."

"But I have a purpose."

She yielded, and they went to the consumptives' home.

An emaciated woman, stretched on one of the little cots, took and held May's hand.

"Miss Ward, I know about your trouble, and I am going to help you. Mrs. Clark was my enemy. My husband deserted me: he was a graceless fellow, but I loved him.

"I took service with Mrs. Clark, but she turned me and my baby out of her house. I had no friends, and I wandered about the streets until I fainted for want of food, and was taken to the police station where the matron heiped and consoled me. But my little babe died.

"While I was at the station, an abandoned babe—blind—was brought in. The matron camined its clothing for some mark of identity She found none.

"But I was more fortunate, a handkerchief had been accidently dropped in the basket which I recognized. I had laundered it at Mrs. Clark's house, it hore her initials. I kept it.

"I kept track of you. I knew your blindness was removed at the hospital. You went to one orphan asylum after another, until, to my joy Mr. Charles Ward adopted you. Why, child, he is your own father.

"I have made it my study for years to defeat her, and I have done it. And now I do dot dread to that showed her to be an uncommonly shrewd woman. Her wrongs had made her revengeful to a good purpose, for, to May's joy, her statements were found undeniable even by Mrs. Clark's most skillful attorneys.

The latter went into obscurity, where her meditations probably accompanied her, and prevented from enjoying

wented from enjoying the happiness of the good and just.

May succeeded to her father's beautiful house, where she was very happy, feeling that such had been his wish.

When it came out that Dr. Glen's father had operated upon her eyes in infancy, and been the instrument of restoring her sight and beauty, it was an added source of joy to beek her and her young husband.

Georgie Misunderstood.

Rochester "Herald": A lady went not lore since to call upon a neighbor in the country says the Boston "Courier," and found the 3 year-old son of the house playing upon the year-old son or the lawn.
"How do you do, Georgie?" she said. "h

"How do you do, Georgie: She said. If your mamma at home?"
"No, Mrs. Gray," he answered with the most approved politicness.
"I am sorry for that," the caller said. "Will she be gone long?"
"I don't know," the little fellow answered, doubtfully. "She's gone to a Christian and Devil meeting."
"Gone to what?" the lady exclaimed in astonishment.

"Gone to what?" the lady exclaimed in actorishment.
"To a Christian and Devil meeting in the vestry," was the reply.
And it suddenly flashed across the caller's remembrance that for that afternoon had been appointed at the vestry of the church a meeting of the society of Christian Endeavor.

Tack it on the Wall.

The elder Baron Rothschild had the walls of his bank placarded with the following curious Carefully examine every detail of your busi-

ess.
Be prompt in everything.
Take time to consider and then decide quickly.
Dare to go forward.

Dare to go forward.

Bear troubles patiently.

Be brave in the struggle of life.

Maintain your integrity as a sacred thing.

Never tell business lies.

Make no useless acquaintances.

Never try to appear something more than you

re. Pay your debts promptly. Learn how to risk your money at the right moment.
Shun strong liquor.
Then work hard and you will be certain to

succeed.

A Lesson in Deportment.

"Madam," he began, as the door opened, "lam selling a new book on etiquette and deportment."
"Oh, you are!" she responded. "Go down

"Oh, you are:" she responded." "Go down there on the grass and clean the mud off your feet."
"Yes'm. As I was saying, ma'am, I am sell—"
"Take off your hat! Never address a strange lady at her door without removing your hat."
"Yes'm. Now then as I was saying—"
"Take your hands out of your pockets! No gentleman ever carries his hands there."
"Yes'm. Now, ma'am, this work on eti—"
"Throw out your cud. If a gentleman uses tobacco, he is careful not to disgust others by the habit."
"Yes'm. Now, ma'am, in calling your attention to this valuable—"
"Wait! Put that dirty handkerchief out of sight and use less grease on your hair. Now you look half way decent. You have a book on etiquette and deportment. Very well. I don't want it. I am only the hired girl. You cas come in, however, and talk with the lady of the house. She called me a liar this morning, and I think she needs something of the kind"—Detroit Free Press.

He Was Fly.

"And I suppose, like a brave soldier, you followed your colors?"
"Yes whenever there was a battle I noticed that the colors were flying, so I flow



DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS: Come, let us have a jolly good time this month, round the fireplace in "The Mystic Castle," where he flames of Puzzledom burst forth with a cheerful and glowing splendor. Have you never been with us vefore? Has Comfort, with its many blessings, just netered your home?

and glowing splendor. Have you never been with us before? Has Comfort, with its many blessings, just entered your home?

If so, you certainly want to enjoy the pleasures we senjoy each month, tangling and untangling the "Intricate Knots from Puzzledom," working for the fine suseful prizes offered, and having a social chat as we gather at the "Realm of Comfort."

Welcome to all, especially to those who have lately joined us, and to those who come seeking admittance to "The Mystic Castle" this time.

Send original puzzles for publication, solutions to the "Mysteries" below, and all your letters concerning "The Mystic Castle" to Oldcastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y. Be sure to sign your full name and address, as well as nom deplume to every letter you write, also attach it to each puzzle you send.

Oldcastle will answer all letters received from his Mystic Friends, if a two-cent stamp is inclosed.

Solvers! Have you seen the announcement of the gold Medal Tournament" in our last issue? A fine gold medal Tournament" in our last issue? A fine gold medal Tournament and sincribed, is to be given to the solver making the best record from Jan. to July 1892. For further particulars relating to this contest, see January "Mystic Castle."

Oldcastle has received Ophir's and Delian's photographs for his album. Many thanks to you, Mystic Friends, for them. Hope many more will follow suit. Danville Solver will hereafter be known as Percy Vere; Cal I, Fornia as Ned Land; W. H. S. as R. E. Ward; Line as Essay; Buck I. Ned as R. E. Turn; Phil O. Pena as Bennie Factor.

Now for a little miscellaneous chat. Novice sent a list of solutions to October "Mysteries" too late to be credited in our last issue.—Solvers will please date their lists of solutions.—The names of the winners in the "Prize Word-Hunt Contest" will be announced next month.—Please do not write with lead pencil.

Contributions have been received from Novice, 16; Bennie Pactor, 14; Wild Bill, Jr., 5; James Brooks, 4; Odell Cyclone, Kernel, R. E. Ward, Remardo and Merlia, 3

orleans, La.,) Ned Land and Aspiro, 2; Bula Dillingham, 1.

Solvers to November "Mysteries" are as follows:
Complete Lists:—Doe, Eglantine, S. N. Dills, Frank,
Opbir, Kal Q. Lator and Hercules.
Incomplete Lists:—Fancy, R. H. Reddish, Ypsie,
Essay, Mrs. G. P. C. and W. E. Wiatt, 11; Castranova,
Roland, Ben Net and Audax, 10; Delian and Wild
Bill, Jr., 9; Remardo, 8; Guardineer, Southern Girl,
New Orleans, La.,) and Phil, 7; Solon, Rosebug, Pat
Riot and Novice, 6; Mrs. C. C. Haskell, Chinkapin
Ridge, Odell Cyclone, Florine, Philos, Hi A. Watha
and Buck I. Solver, 5; Pro Fesh, Misses Josic and
Daisy Bourjal, Percy Vere, Noah Count and Arty
Pishel, 4; Con T. Emplate, Ned Land, Ajax, Mrs.
Fanny White, Remlap, Bill Arp, O. B. Server and Sis,
3; Maj. Mrs. W. E. Jacgle, Bula Dillingham and Dick
Graver, 2; Jersey Lilly, 1.
Prize-winners:—1. Doc. 2, Eglantine. 3. S. N.

Dills.

Dills.

Solvers should endeavor to enter their lists as early as possible, as the time of receipt, as well as the correctness, is taken into consideration in awarding the If contributors desire to offer individual prizes

If contributors desire to offer individual prizes for the solution to their puzzles, they may do so, by simply making notice of the offer on the sheet containing the puzzle. Contributors so doing will be notified of the winner's name and address, when the prizes are awarded, and will confer a favor by sending the prize as soon after receiving the notification as possible. We have chatted quite a little this month and it has come time for the old man of Mystic Land to return to his old home to await the coming of another month when he hopes to be again permitted to enjoy a pleasant wisit with his Mystic Friends at the "Realm of Comfort." So good-bye for this time, with the best wishes of Your dear old Mystic Priend,

SOLUTIONS TO NOVEMBER'S MYSTERIES.

No. 237. I No. 238. I	ight-house lib-bed.					
No. 239.	The state of the s	No. 240.				
NOTES PPAT 1RA 8T	E TE ONE N D O W	S A C R I G A R U I	R F I R F I R	R		
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CURT REL DE	TLES AILEI IEVE LVE EE) G	CAL OLD DAR DON	DROENR NIN RNS OG D	OIG)
No. 243. C F R C R A C T O D E N L D E	Q UE OND DLED LIBE IVEN BEL EN	No. S	TOHONYGOPARSED	Z Y P G A S O R E M A T A G O T O N	DION	,
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STRON OILE DIG	G RS ITS TACT		R-E 1 0-R 1 B-0 1 E-X 1	BUF-MOL-REA-	F U L	

STRAIT R-BECH-O

MYSTERIES. No. 281. Numerical.

The whole, composed of twenty-three letters, is the name of a noted writer.

The 8, 21, 10, 16, 3, 11, 23 is a law term meaning sup-

The 8, 21, 10, 10, 3, 11, 25 is a mixture of different port.

The 4, 17, 6, 13, 22, 10, 15 is a mixture of different kinds of grain.

The 12, 14, 19, 1 is a disease that is paroxysmal. The 9, 20, 18, 18, 5 is a berry.

The 7 and 2 are found in "The Mystic Band."

Kansas City. Mo.,

No. 284. Crossword.

No. 284. Crossword.

In Bagdad for my first 1 look;
From Omaha the next 1 took;
The third in Russia can be found,
And fourth's in Kansas, Pll be bound.
The fith's in Egypt, and I find
The sixth in Portugal, now mind
That a basket whole will surely be,
Make sure that whole you plainly see.
Gouldsboro Sta., Pa.,
Double Letter Enjema

No. 285. Double Letter Enigma.

In "golden treasure;"
In "love without measure;"
In "lovely and fair;"
In "golden hair,"
Perhaps you'll guess it,
When you see,
My whole, is good
For you and me.
Marshfield, Pa.,

R. EBUS

Marshfield, Pa., No. 286. Apheresis. When the signal of war resounds o'er the land, The TOTAL soon spreads from hilltop to sea, And patriots together in serried ranks stand, To battle for home and dear liberty.

Great Britain once tried to grind us to dust,
And mustered her minions on land and on sea,
But we put in our God and our muskets our trust,
And down in mid ocean went her ship-load of tea,
And up sprang the nation from tyranny free.

And up sprang the nation from tyranny free.

Now wide o'er the land our millions are spread,
They till the rich soil that yields them their bread;
Dame Nature is kind, and her plants of bright green,
Of use to mankind, are everywhere seen;
With fair, seented flowers the senses they please;
And houses for shelter man makes of the trees;
The waste places even with verdure are fair,
And FINAL, says Webster, is a plant that grows there,
Dubois, Ill.

No. 287 Rebendment

No. 287. Beheadment.

Whole, I mean to irritate; behead me and have degree; behead me again and I mean devoured; transpose me and have to rust; behead, and I am a preposition; again, and I am a letter from "Old Castle."

Mendocino City, Cal.,

No. 289. Square. A prose writer.
 Distance.
 A kind of pancake.
 A hot, oppressive wind common in the Mediterranean Sea.
 One who makes equal.
 To

No. 292. Pentagon.

1. A letter. 2. A particle. 3. Not easily discovered.
4. Marked with dots, circles, etc. 5. Having belts surrounded by rings. 6. English novelist (1840?) 7. A fine spirituous liquor 8. To bring to the consideration of. 9. The substances which inclose the ore on every vide.

No. 293. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A small vessel. 3. Subterranean cavities or passages. 4. Revolved around. 5. A weeding out (obs.) 6. Throwing. 7. A net. 8. An animal. 9. A letter.

Bennett, Nobr., Roland.

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PRIZES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS.

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2. As Doc already has a copy of "Payne's Business Pointers," he offers the copy won by him in a recent contest for the best batch of "flats," received before April 1, 1882. Mark puzzles "in Competition," and address Oldcastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y. If you wish to be notified by mail of the receipt of your letters, inclose a two-cent stamp.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

1. For the first complete or largest lists of solutions.

PRIZES FOR SOLDTIONS.

1. For the first complete or largest lists of solutions to this month's "Mysteries," Webster's Handy Dictionary.

2. For the second best list, a year's subscription to COMPORT.

3. For the first complete list of solutions to the "flats" in this issue, three Silk Handkerchiefs.

4. For the first complete list of solutions to the "forms," Carl's Treasure Cabinet.

Competition closes April 1, 1892. Solutions, solvers and prize-winners will appear in May "Mystic Castle."

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LEAP YEAR THOUGHTS.



Another woman who is able to do pretty well without the aid of a husband has this to say: "Young girls, wait until you are at least twenty-five before you think of marrying! All tastes change between the ages of sixteen and thirty. The books you read, the games you enjoy, the milliner's skill you trust to, the friendships you cultivate, all are changing; why should not the lastes and fancies



changing; why should not the tastes and fancies of the soul? The age that feeds upon Mrs. Southworth and Mrs. Holmes is vastly unlike the age that demands stronger mental food, The hero you are ready to worship at eighteen will not be a hero to you, ten chances to one, at twenty-eight. Wait until your tastes settle and the possibilities within you have found their level before you fix upon an unalterable destiny. For, whether it bring sorrow or joy, the choice you make is an irrevocable one. There ought to be a special legislation against hasty and early marriages, for, although there are signal exceptions to the rule, three-fifths of the exceedingly early unions turn out a curse to either or both of the mated ones."

There is however only too much truth in what she asys.



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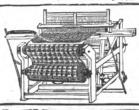
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INTERPRETED.



HE HELD UP A PENNY TO PAY.

"Well, little boy," said the candy man,
"And what will you have to-day?"
"Yuppy yate ticky," said Johnnie Moran.
And he held up a penny to pay.
"Say it once more," said the candy man,
"Your meaning is rather obscure."
But "Yuppy yate ticky" said Johnnie again,
With a smile that was sweet and demure.

"Is it this? is it that?" said the candy man,
"Or perhaps it's a peppermint stick?
Or a chocolate cream? Come! tell if you can,
And try, little boy, to be quick."

But Johnny looked up at the candy man And solemnly shook his head, Then all of a sudden he thought of a plan And took to his heels and fled.



SHE STRAIGHT ADVANCED WITH HER SHOULDER SQUARE.

SQUARE,
But he soon returned, with a confident air,
And his sister Elizabeth Ann,
Who straight advanced with her shoulders square,
Till she stood by the candy man.
He was wondering still, as he scratched his nose,
What "Yuppy yate ticky" might be,
When "Give my brother a cent's worth, please,
Of sumpin taint sticky," said she.
E. L. SYLVESTER

The Yankee Blade, Boston, Mass., will be sent to all new subscribers every week for one year for \$1.00; 6 mos. for 50 cents.



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ands of my customers have grown
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will grow no ands of my customers have grown them to weigh over 45 ozs. The quality is excellent; after you once test it you will grow no others. If well cared for they will produce I bu. to a plant (see cut) of large, smooth, bright red to matoes, very solid with only a few seeds in each, and entirely free from rot. If started early, fruit ripens from July 4th until frost. This year I offer \$500 Cash to any person producing a 3½ ib. tomato. (It can be done.) Full directions how Mr. Harris grew hir with each order. Plant some, you may win the prize. All my seed is saved from large specimens.

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weighed over 64 pounds.

good keeper. Single heads have weighed over 64 pounds.

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Volume 4.

No. 4.

Devoted to Art, Literature, Science and the Some Circle.

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February, 1892

By Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine.



My parents, like many others, were very desirous of bettering their fortune and in the spring of '75 left the comfortable Eastern home and came to the far famed West.

We traveled a week and finally reached our destination—a muddy little town consisting of a few mean structures called "shacks." This was the town to which people traveled to do their trading—this the place to which the Indians came for their supplies, sent by the government.

We were not sorry when the time came for us to go to our "claim," some fifteen miles from this so-called "city." After a drive of several hours, through mud and water we reached our new home, a tiny sod house built on the summit of a very high hill, from which we could see for miles and miles, nothing, however, met our gaze but land and water, no trees, houses or any sign of habitation.

For days we saw not one human being, and contented ourselves by wandering over the smooth prairie, picking flowers and pretty pebbles, but one evening as we were coming home from our rambles, we heard a strange noise and looking in the direction from whence it came, saw a number of objects moving toward us, which on nearer approach, proved to be Indians, in their funny carts drawn by small, lazy Indian ponies.



These were the first Indians we had ever seen and we thought of all the blood curdling stories we had ever read or heard of, and wondered if they would scalp us. Our alarm was increased when we saw them preparing to camp at the foot of the hill, not far from our house. After everything was prepared for the night, two of the Indians came to our well to water the ponies and we found that they were not such savages as we had imagined, and before they went away we felt quite well acquainted with them, they did not speak our language, nor we theirs, but we used the "language of signs." This was our first acquaintance with the "Red Skins," but not the last, every few days members of them would pass near our house and some of them, through curiosity, would come to the door and ask for food or water, and would stay a few minutes gazing at everything in sight. I was then a child of eleven years, and not at all afraid of these strange people, they would pat my cheeks or run their fingers through my pretty brown curls, and I grew to be very fond of them. One day the Chippewa Chief, escorted by five sturdy braves, called on us. I was not in the house when they came, and as I entered the door, the Chief glided towards me, lifted me carefully in his arms, stroked my curls and salled me "Weenie Squaw" (little squaw). He was so gentle that I did not fear him in the least, but would sit on his knee and look at his long sharp knives and play with the beads strung on his long black hair. He came frequently during the next two years and always brought some trinket for "Weenie Squaw." stories we had ever read or heard of, and won-dered if they would scalp us. Our alarm was

1



In '77 I was sent to a town, thirty miles from home, to school and for months and months pined for the old, free, careless, happy life and my old Indian friends. I now resolved that I would prepare myself for a teacher and as soon as I could would go and live among the natives and teach them. With this resolution in mind, I studied very diligently, and at last was told that in six months more I would complete my studies. Happy was I to know this! At last I could be free to do as I wished, could carry out my resolutions.

My opportunity came sooner than I expected. As I was walking home from school one evening, some one touched my arm and looking around I beheld my old friend, Chippewa Chief, who danced for joy at again seeing me, but the dancing suddenly stopped and Wawa (Chippewa's pet name) looking at me sorrowfully exclaimed, "No Weenie Squaw! No Weenie!" and motioned that I had grown so tall. This, I thought, was a good opportunity for telling Wawa that I wanted to teach among his people, so procuring an interpreter I told him, he was delighted and said that after a while they would want a new teacher on their reservation, their school was so large that an assistant would be needed.

A few months afterward I was notified that I had been appointed teacher on the Chippewa Reservation, and that my duties would begin at once. My preparations were soon made and in a few days I was established in my new position with thirty Indians to train. They were very reserved for a time, but after a while they became acquainted and I found them very industrious and intelligent, and they learned to love me dearly. After I had been with them two years they presented me with one of the finest ponies on the reservation and were never happier than when escorting me to places of interest. We spent Saturdays in racing over the prairies, hunting prairie chickens, ducks and geese. But I was not to enjoy this life very long, my mother died and I went home to care for my aged father.

While Chippewa Chief lived he came to see me every for my aged father.

for my aged father.
While Chippewa Chief lived he came to see
me every year and many were thetokens of love
sent me by my children (now no longer children), but he has now gone to the "Happy
Hunting Ground," and were it not for my
beautiful pony and these beautiful gifts, those
five years spent among the American Indians
would seem but a happy dream.

A DOCTOR'S PRANK.

"Go with you? Certainly I will; never spook or dead negro was there of which I am afraid."
These words were spoken to Dr. Bates, in answer to his inquiry of Simon Bravel if that boasting personage was willing to go with him out on the hill near the river and exhume the bones of an old negro slave who had been buried there many years ago. The doctor said he needed a skeleton in his office and he knew of no other place to get it.

These two young adventurers were boarders at the house of a well-to-do farmer in the southern part of Texas, and often had Bravel made his boast before the young ladies of the vicinity of his utter fearlessness, coolness and bravery, and the doctor rather chagrined at the popularity of Bravel among the fair sex, had asked his help in the matter. It was known among the people around that ghosts were said

to walk around among the shadows out there at night, though in fact none ever went out there to see. It was a very lonely spot; but very few graves and what few there was had been neglected and the weeds and briars held pretty full sway, and it was only by the rude pole pens and sunken earth that a person could tell where a grave was.

The doctor made the challenge more in a spirit of jesting than anything else but as it had been accepted so readily he must cast about for some means of making all he could out of it. He understood the statutes barring grave robbing, and 'twas true he had no special use for a skeleton but he must not back down from his own challenge. The time was set and one or two friends taken into the enterprise who were given a hint of course, and two or three others were posted by the doctor, who were to play a part as yet not very conspicuous to Bravel.

The young ladies meantime were speculating among themselves as to

were to play a part as yet not very conspicuous to Bravel.

The young ladies meantime were speculating among themselves as to the braver of the two and not a little interest was excited over the matter. Here worship was just at hand, and none seemed to know exactly which to "bet on." Some of the doctor's favorites doubted Bravel's chivalry and some of Bravel's admirers questioned the doctor's nerve, but none knew which way the honor would fall and so they would wait and see.

The time came, a beautiful moonlight night, when everything shone as lovely as nature could allow. Their friends joined them down near the old silent graveyard and together they rode on down to the thick wood near by to fasten their horses. Understandingly it was to be kept a profound secret for fear of the law against grave robbing.

awhile and he did nothing but jump straight up and down for a minute, while the spooks seemed to mock his every action all the while still closing in on their game.

still closing in on their game.

Finally Bravel saw a chance for escape and "made way for liberty." Over the briars and underbrush he went with a half dozen apparently crazy demons at his heels, yelling "murder" at every jump. The doctor and his friends went into convulsions with laughter as the spooks chased Bravel out of sight down towards the wood where the horses were tied. He managed to gain on them enough to give him time to cut his halter and jump on his horse before they were at arms length, shrieking like a squad of Comanche warriors.

The horse being thoroughly frightened be-

they were at arms length, shrieking like a squad of Comanche warriors.

The horse being thoroughly frightened became almost unmanageable and dashed off at breakneck speed through a thicket of bamboo canes, in which his rider came near being dragged off but he held to the saddle with grip born of terror, suffering the thorns to lacerate his face and flesh without a murmur. In a few minutes the horse gained the open wood and was soon standing at the farmer's gate with as bloody a burden as ever he carried, and in a few moments the others of the party come dashing up the avenue apparently terrified.

The farmer had been let into the secret of course and laughing was not in order just then as Bravel was badly hurt.

The joke leaked out though next day at the fishing party and Bravel not being able to stand the derisive taunts cast at him by his former admirers departed those coasts and the doctor is the hero of the heroic among the ladies now.



Bravel was the first at the grave of the old negro. It was covered by a pen made trap fashion of poles which were half rotten, around which the dog fennels were growing as thick as a man could easily get through. When they were certain they were right he and the doctor took hold of the poles preparatory to laying them to one side that they might work at ease in the pen.

A Fierce Encounter.

It is with fine if rather unnecessary scorn that men who have hunted the largest and fiercest game, speak of those who find pleasure in the pursuit of the gentle deer of American forests or the even more gentle birds of the

them to one side that they might work at ease in the pen.

When they laid aside the first pole a low muffled groan was heard apparently coming up from the very ground beneath them. Nothing was said by either of them and with reluctance the heroic Bravel took hold of the next and a second groan more terrible and distinct than the first was heard. At this he nervously grasped the doctot's arm and whispered, "For heaven's sake, Doc, let's let the matter drop," The boys overheard his whisper and derisively asked him if his courage was going to fail at last.

This seemed to give him new courage and to the work they went again. The third pole was worse decayed than the others and as they lifted it it broke and dropped in the grave. At this an earthly yell of, "Oh-o-o-o my bones," rent the air and a white apparition arose from the grave and stretched its arms toward Bravel, who waited no longer but turned to beat a hasty retreat towards where the horses were tied. Just at this juncture a half dozen white forms rose up from the thick weeds around and completely surrounded the party of make-believe grave robbers. Bravel's terror was rife for plains.
"Pshaw!" said recently a gentleman who had

mounted horses and set out for a place where we were told we could find lions. We had good horses and we traveled at a tremendous speed. Suddenly as we came near to our destination my horse stumbled, and when he rose I saw that he was lame. Slowly I led him to a small river which ran near where we then proceeded to make our camp. That done the others proceeded on their horses to examine the country and to decide where it would be well to post ourselves for the night's hunt, for none of us expected to see lions in the daytime. I was trying to kill time when I heard my horse whinny. Hastily seizing my rifle I rushed to him; he was trembling with fright. Suddenly from out of the near-by bushes came a wellgrown lion. In a minute he sprang upon the back of my horse. I fired, I hit him; but I did not kill him. He at once left my horse and came for me. I was no longer a lion-hunter. I was lion-hunted. Yet I dared not run. He was severely hurt; but he came on slowly, snarling fearfully. I had time to reload my rifle; but as I raised it to my shoulder the lion aprang upon me, and the gun went off in air. Had I not with my first shot severely wounded him he would have crushed me with a blow. As it was I closed with him, and as I felt his hot breath upon my face I plunged the long then blade of my hunting knife again and again into his heart. His spring upon me was almost his last effort, for shortly he fell back and with a horrid groan he died. It was a narrow escape. Even as it was his long claws wounded me badly and I shall carry the marks on my shoulder to my grave."

TAKING A WHALE.

ARLY one morning, while we were cruising off the coast of Peru for sperm-whales, I was doxing on the main-top gallant cross-trees.

Suddenly something seemed to ring through my brain. I awoke to discover that it was the wild voice of Zadik, the captain's harpooner, a tail, awarthy, straight-haired youth, half Kanacka, half English. He was very tender hearted, but an exeellent whaleman, whose power of vision was truly semarkable. He stood on the other side of me, shrieking with all the force of his lungs, "There blows -there blow s!"

"Where away?" th undered old captain Boom, glancing aloft.

"On the weather-bow, four miles off, heading to leeward."

This sent an electric thrill through every vein; the old ship lurched as if she felt it too. Up came old Boom, with spy glass slung over his shoulder, nounting two ratines at a time. When on the crossrees, he just gave one uint with his telescope, aren his voice rang, frough the ship like the notes of a trumpet:

"Back the mainyard! clear away the boats!"

"THERE BLOWS!"

It would have done you good to see the men jump to falls and braces. The ship came up slowly, and Boom went speedily down by means of a back-stay.

Zadik following him, sprang like a deer into the starboard boat.

"Lower away!" ordered the captain. Buzz-z-z buss! buzz-z-z sounded the falls; and splash went the four boats almost simultaneously into the water. The merry lads bundled into them, and away they sew, the captain's taking the lead.

"Snap your oars! Make the fire fly! Long and strong's the word! Bend your back every one of ye!" exclaimed the captain.

In a similar manner the other officers encouraged their crews, until they had proceeded about four miles, when orders were given to stop pulling.

"None of your venturesome pranks, Thomas; if you get alongside of a whale, said the skipper to his son, a lad of fifteen, who belouged to the first mate's boat, "you'll have need of all your dexterity."

Thomas, the ship's favorite, smiled, and shook his surly head. At the same moment the water broke into a whirlpool a few fathoms astern. There was a hurried whispering; then the boats were forced round, as a very small whale—a calf—rose to the surface.

We perceived at once that the creature had been

cound, as a very small whate—a can be able to ace.

We perceived at once that the creature had been struck by some other crew; for the shank of an iron protruded from its body. It seemed very weak, and in much pain, moving slowly, and now and then recling sideways with a sudden plunge. It swam in a circle, as if bewildered; and the noise of its spouting somewhat reminded me of the wailing of a child.

"Paddle ahead!" was the order; for every man believed that the mother of the calf, the cow-whale, was not far off. The first mate was soon within darting distance.

was not far off. The first mate was soon within darking distance.

"Give it to him!" he shrieked, and whiz! went the harpooner's iron into the animal's body.

For a few moments the little whale, as if half stupefied, remained nearly motionless; then it went down, writhing and whirling its great flukes in great agony; after which it sounded. It was too weak to drag the boat very fast or very far; and it soon rose about five yards ahead.

"Haul line!" ordered the mate, now in the boat's bow, with lance in hand.

As he spoke, the water on one side of the calf suddenly parted with a roar like a cataract, and an enormous leviathan, the cow-whale, boomed up from the surface, beating the sea with her flukes, and spouting furiously.



A SMALL WHALE ROSE TO THE SURFACE

Round and round her offspring she swam; but soon paused as if half paralyzed with astonishment and grief at the situation of the sufferer. A moment she remained thus, then moved ahead slowly and gently, ecasionally turning as if to entice the little creature to follow. In fact the calf endeavored to do so, but to follow. In fact the calf endeavored to do so, but was too badly crippled to swim; it made a few feeble plunges towards its parent, and then began to writhe and wheel in great agony. Perceiving that it was aow in its flurry, the mate stopped hauling line, and remained watching the animal until its blood-red spoutings no longer rose, and it rolled over quite dead.

The conduct of its mother was pitiful to witness. The seemed unwilling to believe that her young was really dead. Round it she slowly swam, spouting with a noise something between a shriek and a gasp. Then she moved ahead as before, and, like one half-erazed, seemed not yet to have abandoned the hope deemed new of the she were rapidly but stealthily advancing. Soon the captain who was foremost was near enough to dart.

the captain who was stated and the constraint of the hard was also harpoon; at the same moment the cow gently rubbed her great head against the little whale, as if to ascertain the reason why it would not follow her.

Zadik lowered the point of his weapon; his wild

Zadik lowered the point of his weapon; his wild eyes softened.

"That whale is just like a human mother, captain," said he, "and I haven't the heart to strike it!"

"Why, Zadik, what ails ye? Dart! dart! I tell ye!"
As he spoke, a sudden change came over the whale, which now, half turning saw the boat.

Wrathful and wild for revenge, she threw the whole height of her enormous body out of water; then falling back with the din of a cataract, she made straight for the boat, her bristling jaws wide open, and her broad flukes beating the sea.

"Stern! stern!" shouted old Boom; and every man



SHE STRUCK THE FIRST MATE'S BOAT, SHIVERING IT TO ATOMS!

of his crew, except Zadik, turned pale.

The harpooner had changed with the leviathan. The flush of fight was now on his cheek; and there was fire in his eye. His dark brow was wrinkled; the ends of his straight black hair bristled like spear-points. He motioned to the captain to keep off a little and, being obeyed, sent both irons whizzing into the side of the monster.

Maddened with pain, fiercer than ever, the whale made a swift dash toward the boat, which she must have grappled, had not the captain by a dexterous movement, whirled the light vessel to one side. Thus baffled, the monster descended, shaking a savage warning with her flukes as she disappeared. Away went the boat swift as a whirlwind, the line humming around the loggerhead, and the crew cheering lustily in answer to the cheers of those who were pulling after them.

Zadik and the captain changed places, and the "old lion," as we called Boom, soon had his lance ready. The whale came up a quarter of an hour later, and "Haul line!" was the order. When within darting distance, the skipper sent his long weapon into the honster's body. Enraged beyond all bounds, she came dashing toward us in a cloud of whirling spray tossed by her enormous flukes.

"Stern! stern!" ordered the captain.

Thicker and faster flew the spray, almost hiding the animal from us, until suddenly we saw its great head, with the bristling jaws, bursting from the white foam-cloud, within six inches of the skipper! had the nerves of Zadik failed him, the old man must have perished the next minute. But the voice of the Kanacka rang like the clang of a hammer, as with ready steering-oar he whirled the boat's broadside toward the monster, and then gave the order to "Stern!"

Snap went the monster's closing jaws, just missing the boat's bow! And whiz 2-z went the old captain's lance again into her both.

Ranacka rang like the chang or a hammer, as with ready steering-oar he whirled the boat's broadside toward the monster, and then gave the order to "Stern!"

Snap went the monster's closing jaws, just missing the boat's bow! And whiz-2-z went the old captain's lance again into her body.

As she dashed furiously toward us, our shipmates arrived to take part in the combat. The first mate who had left the calf to be towed by an extra boat's crew from the ship, attacked the monster on one flank, while the captain and his second and third mates battled desperately upon the other. The cheers of the men, the crashing of the whale's flukes, mingled with wild cries, were heard on all sides; while so thick was the spray that no man could see his neighbor distinctly.

Vigorously pressed, with lance after lance piercing her body, the whale soon acknowledged the power of her assailants by sending up into the spray-cloud a light-red fountain of blood. With exultant screams, the lancers, still attacking, buried their weapons in her writhing body, from which the spout rose darker and darker every moment.

Suddenly, with one tremendous whirl of her flukes, she struck the first mate's boat, shivering it to atoms!

Then slowly round and round she swam, the dark blood-spout now ascending scarcely six inches. Finally, half lifting her flukes and head in one last spasm of agony, she expired.

The first mate's crew, being good swimmers, had not yet been picked up; for the captain had been too busy to notice which vessel was wrecked. As the poor fellows were helped into his boat, he looked in vain for his son.

The sad story was soon told. Poor little Thomas was far down under the sea, whither his frame, crushed by the whale's flukes, had been dragged by sharks. The captain groaned and bowed his head, he did not lift it util we were alongside the ship. While we were cutting up the whale, we looked in vain for him.

"He is down in the cabin," said the mate, "weeping and sobbing like a child. He will never be a happy man again!"

"Ay, ay

OXIEN.

When rheumatism racks the frame, And every joint is sore and lame, What can immediate ease proclaim?

OXIEN! When weary, worn, and wanting rest, Poor woman feels herself distressed, What is it that can aid her best?

When, after drinking hard, man feels That dizziness which o'er him steals, There is one thing that quickly heals-

Catarrh, that foe to human peace
Which human trials doth increase,
Has one, before whose power 'twill cease—
OXIEN!

The kidney pains mankind endure, Heart trouble which will death ensure, Have, taken in time, a speedy cure— OXIEN!

Dyspepsia, indigestion too, Consumption with its pallid hue-All nature's ills yield quickly to

And as a tonic it is known,
A food for body, brain and bone,
That gives the blood a healthy tone—
OXIEN!

Our Correspondent in Coldwater, Michigan, writes:

Michigan, writes:

I have an interesting case to relate. A family by the name of Buck, living in our city, have a daughter Nellie, 18 years old. A little more than one year since she was taken with the Grippe, and for a time was very bad; but in time got better, when signs of St. Vitus dance appeared, and soon became very alarming. A doctor was called and attended her for i weeks, but the patient grew worse, when another doctor was called, who said she ought to have been cured in 4 weeks. But when he had treated her 8 weeks, the mother told me the daughter could neither dress, undress or feed herself. At this time the mother called on the last doctor and told him Nellie was growing worse all the time. He then frankly told her Nellie could never be cured. With a heavy heart she went home. About that time she was told I was selling Oxien, the wonderful food for the nerves. She came to me in person and got a 35c. box, and strange to tell, the first box was not used up before a marked improvement was visible. They kept up its use until she had taken the contents of 6 small boxes, when wonderful to relate she was perfectly cured and is to-day well and hearty. All the foregoing facts I have from the parents and the young lady herself. They live within 20 minutes walk of me, and I have their permission, and Miss Nellie's also, to make their permission, and Miss Nellie's also, to make their permission, and Miss Nellie's also, to make their food is now well.

P. S. Yesterday I saw and conversed with the young man, Fisk, who told me he was now perfectly cured, though he had been so bad that he had been obliged to quit his school and all his studies.

Yours truly.

ALLEN TIBBITS.

Sprechen Sie Deutsch?

German at a Clance.





LEGANT SILK EMBOSSED PLUSH LEAVES
highly decorated with Daisies, Ferns, Golden Rod,
etc., etc.; Extension Silvered Clasp, Gilt Edge,
Suring back and the most styllsh, best gotten up
LARGE PHOTO ALBUM ever imported into America,
being a foot long, over nine inches wide and more
than three inches thick, coming in finest colors,
most tastily arranged leaves for cabinet and photo
size pictures you ever saw. They will last for years,
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FREE for a Club of 12 yearly Subscribers to ComFORT, at 25c. each. It was formerly sold for \$8.00
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\$15.67 including a year's subscription to COMPORT.
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show them.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

99 PATTERNS OF MANUAL FREE LATEST PINGO TO STAMPING OF THE ST OUTFIT

BEAUTIFUL PROFITABLE

RENSINGTON STAMPING was never store popular than to-day. Many ladies making high wages working at home, odd hours. Besides heautifying your own home you can make 15c. every 5 minutesy ou stamp for others. If you only devote 3 hours a day to it, the snug little earns of 5 and over comes in, as the prices range from 5c. to 3! for each pattern you stamp. An inventive gentus has lately modernized machinery for turning out these patterns by the shorted gards as fast as you can reel off a ball of yarn, so the patterns on strips about two first and one of the patterns on strips about two first and gardeeven inches wide. Nearly as good as many 50c, and 3! once now being sold. We buy so many of this one thad that we can lead reprotect dealer on price. Our beautiful combined outfit consisting of nearly 100 of the largest variety of patterns, each from about a fool long down to single alphabet letters. We cannot describe them, not having room to go into detail, but in order to introduce our magazine, "Comfort," with its greetly improved departments, we will send the above outfit, free postpaid, to all three months' (12c.) subscribers, and also send a new book or Manual of Instruction in the art of starrping. Just printed. It describes how to make all colors of powder, and instructs you in every manner of working the patternality our choice of the control of the patternality of the patternality

NICKEL PEN KNIFE FREE.

To introduce our Novelty Catalogue goods we will send free for 4 cents, mailing expenses, a 3 bladed Nickel-handle Knife. Nice for everyone; first-class pencil sharpener, nail cleaner, etc.; has ear spoor and toothpick attached. Morse & Co., Augusta, Main.



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CONTENTS:
Ah, how death.
Ah, my words.
Ablier's love.
A sailor's love.
A blove song.
Anvil charte.
A second Blue eyed Mary, Brave Wolfe. Bachelor's fare, Bessy's mistake, Canaan, Caller Herrin', Captain Mecan, Coal black Rose, Crooskeen lawn, Dearest Mae, Duncan Gray, Ding dong bell, Dolly Varden, Do not mingle, Dream song,

Jim along Josie.
Jim crack corn.
Johnny Sands.
Jock Hattin.
Johnny Sands.
Jock Hattin.
Johnny Sands.
Jok Hattin.
Johnny Sands.
Jok Hattin.
Jok Hattin. Oh, Mr. Coon.
Old J.e.
Ole Pee Dee.
Old King Crow.
Oh, Arabella.
Poor old maids.
Pesky Ike.
Paddy Snap. olly.
ory O'Moore.
obin Adair.
cel o' bogie,
aby.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Main

The parting.
The advice.
The fairy boy.
The Ingleside.
The resolve.
Tulochgorum.
Tis better so.
Thou art mine.

Expan Dynn, Betsy Baker.
Bryan O Lynn, Cynthal Jinks, Charles Harrest Bryan Dord Cookeen lawn.
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clatter conveyed the idea that each member had just been liberated from some establishment where rigid silence had been imposed for a considerable length of time.

At the first rap of the President's gavel, however, the sound of voices gradually died away, until complete silence reigned in the room, when Dorothy called upon the Secretary to read the regular monthly report, and the minutes of the last meeting. After this Mrs. Jones rose to make her financial statement, which showed the club to be progressing satisfactorily and to be some six dollars in hand after payment of all outstanding debts.

When the applause attending this gratifying announcement had somewhat subsided, Mrs. Cripps declared the meeting open for discussion, and begged to remind members that, while she knew there were several subjects which had been unavoidably shelved at previous meetings, she thought that these ought to be allowed to rest for a further period, in order that members might have more time to debate upon the paramount topic of drink. (Hear, hear.) Members were all aware that their visit to the Sheriff had failed through accident, and a case of mistaken identity on their part as to who the Sheriff was on that particular day. In a fight of this kind they must be prepared for defeats and drawbacks. Without them there was no glory in ultimate victory, (Applause.) She could not exactly say what would be the next move on the part of the club against the drinking club, but she had confidence herself in their final victory, and wished the rest of the members engaged in the crusade to share her feelings.

Mrs. Traggle said she believed that their efforts were already bearing fruit as she had heard from her husband that one of the members of Mr. Cripps' club had driven in to Clovertown the other week for the urpose of MILLER TAKING THE PLEDGE.

tion, after first greetings, was, "What will Dorothy do?"

There was a general air of depression on the faces of the members as they filed into their respective seats in the meeting room. True, the night was cold, in spite of the fact that Bridget had made a big fire in every stove in the place, but it was not the chilliness of the atmosphere so much as the cold disappointment accruing from their failure to suppress the men's "Drinking Club"—as they persisted in calling it—that made the women feel depressed.

Dorothy was one of the last to arrive, and her bright, cheery manner soon seemed to have the effect of "thawing out" the rest of the members. The tongues began to was at a good 2.40 rate, and the clatter conveyed the idea that each member had just been liberated from some establishment where rigid stience had been imposed for a considerable length of time.

it myself. Has anybody anything to say why this piano should not be purchased on the terms stated?" Not a voice was raised against Miss Hayrick's proposal, so the motion was carried without being put to the vote.

This practically concluded the business of the evening, but it was noticed at the refreshment table that Dorothy sat next to Miss Hayrick, smiling sweetly upon her and evidently bent upon being good friends. Even Bridget could not get a word in edgeways when she wanted to replenish their cups or serve them again with pie. And when the members finally dispersed for the evening, it was a noteworthy fact that Dorothy and Susan walked home together as far as the latter's gate, where they remained in close conversation regardless of passersby for a considerable time.

FREE VALENTINES.

We have some sweet pretty valentines which we are giving away to all who would like to take Comport on trial for the next three months. They are the regular cupids darts made up with Lace and Lithograph work, and we also include an assortment of comics. Send 6c. for trial subscription and we mail valentine package free. Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine.



Besides the large commission allowed agents for selling Oxien, the Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Me., are giving away absolutely free a large number of valuable presents to their workers. We illustrate one case here now. It shows Florida L. Boggess enjoying her premium sewing machine to such an extent that she cannot even stop to eat her Thanksgiving dinner. She says it is a beauty and arrived just in time for her to use it while her father and mother were present Thanksgiving Day. She has sold Oxien to her neighbors and made \$100.00 in cash besides the machine, without devoting hardly any time to the business and says she is happy indeed and wants everyone to send for some food that not only brightens them all up but gives employment hand profit to so many people who hardly know what to do these long winter days. You can get a gold watch, a sewing machine and many other valuable articles absolutely free, if you desire to correspond with the Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Mc.



A WHOLE TABLE-LOAD OF FUN.

WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.

WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.
THIS Weather Warning will faithfully forecast the weather for the ensuing 24 hours, so that you can get your own weather report without waiting for the newspapers to tell you what the weather report is to be. It is a cyclone warning. When the weather is going to be wet, a fine noble dog arises from his kennel back in the distance, and approaches the opening (see illustration above), giving a signal that there is a storm approaching, and as the storm subsides, or if it will be over during the next 24 hours, a butterfly in all its splendor appears to tell you that sunshine is at hand, to gladden the hearts of mankind. The butterfly and the dog are made of metal in hand-some colors. The front is handsomely decorated with fancy designs and figures. In the centre stands an accurate thermometer; the whole thing being so simple that a child will understand it at once. When the devastating hurricaus, cyclone and wind storms are approaching your home, this machine warms you long abead, giving you thome, this machine warms you long abead, giving you thouse, the wooderful control of the storm of the property of the storm of the property of the property of the storm of the property of the prop & cents to Morse & Co., Box 905 Augusta, Me.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING.



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ingh, two alphabets one mich high, and of which are named below.

Set of 26 Initials I inches high.

Complete Alphabet.

Design Love Lees Bleeding 6x7 in.

Design Love Lees Bleeding 6x7 in.

Design Love Lees Bleeding 6x7 in.

Spray Wheat 3 in. high. (high. Complete edsign Fuchsians and Lily-of-large for the edsign Lily-of-large for high fuchsians and Lily-of-large for the edsign Lily-of-large for high fuchs for high. Half Wreath Daistes 8 inches high. Design Sunflower 6 inches high. Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high. Lily-of-large for flame for high fuchsians for the edsign Daistes 6x6 inches.

Corner Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 in. Design for sike embroidery 3 in. wide. Design for sike embroidery 3 in. wide. Design for flamel skirt 4 inches wide. Design for flamel embroidery 5 in. wide. Des. for timel embroidery 5 in. wide. Des. for timel embroidery 5 in. wide. Des. for timel embroidery 5 in. wide. Des. for flamel embroidery 5 in. wide. Des. for flamel embroidery 5 in. wide. Cluster Thistles 7x7 inches. Spray Wild Roses 8 inches high. Des. for flamel embroidery 2½ wide. Scallop besign with Eyelets. Onttime Design of Girl for tidy. Spray of Jonquil 6x7 inches. Cluster Roses and Grasses 4 inches 1 Monse. Design Pond Lilles 5x6 inches high. Design Pond Lilles 5x6 inches. Cluster Fuchsua 4x10 inches.

Spray of some and Grasses 4 inches Monse.

Claster Roses and Grasses 4 inches Monse.

Design Pansies 6 inches high.

Design Pond Lilies 5x6 inches.

Custer Fuchsias 4x10 inches.

Corner Design Fuchsias and Lilies of Chicken.

(the Valley 7x7 inches.

Half Wreath Wild Roses and Buds.

Butterfly.

Design Good Luck 4-Leaf Clover and Large Rose Bud.

(Horsesnoe.

Des. Peaches, Leaves and Budssoms.

Des. Wild Roses and Buds 4 in. high.

Design Cherry Blossoms 7 in. high.

Handsome Bouquet 6 inches high.

Outline Des. Girl and Dog 7 in. high.

Designs Wild Roses 4 inches high.

Palette with Wild Rose for Thermom
Daisy.

Crackes high.

Crackes high.

Crackes high.

Crackes high.

Crackes high.

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Crackes high. l Palette with With Rose for Free ManDaisy. [Fer Case 6879 inches.]
Bouquet Flowers, Grasses and Ferns
Rose 3 inches high. [7 inches high.]
Cluster Daisies 6 inches high.
Cluster Daisies 6 inches high.
Cluster Bachelor's Buttons 71n. high.
Design "Heathen Chinee." Comic.
Braiding Design with Scallops 3½
Design Shamrocks. [Inches wide.]
Scroll Design 1½ inches wide.
Design Stag's Head 5x5 inches.
Design for Cigar Crase 4x4 inches.
Design for Cigar Crase 4x4 inches.
Design for Laundry Bag 7x9 inches.
Duck Swimming 3x4 inches.
Vo such combination of patterns hay

I Alphabet I 14 inch high.
I Alphabet I inch high.
I Large Butterfly.
2 Braiding Patterns.
2 Braiding Patterns.
1 Syray Carnation Pink.
I Buttercup 3 inches high.
I Buttercup 3 inches high.
I Design Buttercup.
I Braiding Pattern 5 in. wd.
I Design Four Leaf Clover.
Spray Danisies 6 in. high.
I Yacht 7 inches high.
I Dancing Girl 8 in. high.
I Cluster Rose Buds.
I Spray Roses 6 inches high.
I Poppy Design.
I Bunch Forget-me-nots.
Sprays Dasises 4 in. high.
I Design Salvin 9 in. high.
I Vine Holly 4 inches wide.
I Design Balvin 9 in. high.
I Large Rose Bud.
Mushroom 4 inches high.
I Design of Bottercup.
I Cluster for Roses.
2 Dalsy Designs.
Cluster of Roses.
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2 Dalsy Designs.
1 Clover Design 10 in. high.
2 Designs for Pen Wipers.
1 Braiding Design 1½ inch.
1 Design Wild Roses.
2 Butterflies.
2 Rutterflies.
4 Anghor and Chain. 2 Butterflies.
1 Anchor and Chain.
1 Scallop with Eyelets.
2 Large Butterflies.
1 Design Pansics 5 in. high.
1 Design Pansics 5 in. high.
1 Design Nasturtium 9 inches high.
1 Outline Des. Boy Spin'g Top 6 in. hi.
1 Cluster of Buttercups 6 inches high.
1 Outline Design Girl Going to School
1 Design Dalsies. (10 inches high.
1 Design Boy with Bouquet 8
1 Clover Design. (inches high.
1 Outline Design Girl 6 inches high.
1 Outline Design of Girl 8 inches high.
1 Outline Design of Girl 8 inches high.
1 Outline Design Girl 5 inches high.
2 Design Nowall.
3 Designs of Roses and Buds.
3 Designs of Roses and Buds.
4 Seallop Design vith Corner.
5 Spray Jonquil 5 inches high.
6 Design Sinches high.
6 Design Sinches high.
7 Design Forget-inc-nots.
8 Design for Glove Case.
8 Design for Glove Case.
9 Design for Silk Embroldery
1 Design Forget-inc-nots.
1 Design Sonwball.
1 Design for Silk Embroldery
1 Design Violet.
1 Design for Silk Embroldery
1 Design Violet.
1 Spray Sumae 4 inches high.
1 Star.
2 Design Forget-inc-nots.
3 Designs of Roses and Buds.
4 Design of Lily 5 inches high.
5 Carrer Pigeon 4x4 inches.
5 Spray Jonquil 5 inches high.
6 Design for Glove Case.
6 Design for Glove Case.
7 Design for Silk Embroldery
8 Design Forget-inc-nots.
8 Design Sonwall.
9 Design Sonwall.
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9 Design Forget-inc-nots.
9 Design Sonwall.
9 Design Forget-inc-nots.
9 Spray Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.
Design Rose Buds and Leaves.
Design Forget-me-nots and Lilies of
Frog. (the Valley 4x5 inches.
Design Roses with Buds and Leaves 1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves
1 Spray Wheat. (5 inches high.
1 Cluster Apple Blossoms 4x5 inches.
1 Spray Daisies 4½ inches high.
1 Outline Design Girl 6 inches high.
1 Design Wild Roses 5 inches high.
1 Design Wild Roses 5 inches high.
1 Half Wreath Daisies 8x8 inches.
1 Pretty Little Miss 7 inches high.
1 Design Tiger Lity 6 inches high.

Star. Spray Jonquil 5 inches high. Spray Violet.
Design for Glove Case.
Design fullips 3 inches high.
Rabbit's Head.
Design Snowball.
Design Snowball.
Design for Silk Embroldery
Design Violet. [2 in. wide.
Cluster Strawberries.
Spray Sumac 4 inches high.
Peacock's Feather.
Bunch Cherries.
Calla Lily 4 inches high.

Bunch Cherries.

I Calla Lity 4 inches high.
I Calla Lity 4 inches high.
I Design Pansy 3 inches high.
I Design Leaf.
Jiscs 4 inches across.
Design May Flowers 3x4 in.
Design Horse.
Dromedary's Horse.

Design Horse. Dromedary's Head. Cluster Leaves 4x5 inches 1 Clover Design 4 inches high. 1 Tiger's Head, etc., etc., etc.

No such combination of patterns have ever been advertised before in a single outfit as they could not have been sold at a less price than \$2.00 per set, and here we offer everything named above, all sent postpaid for only 50 cents. Remember, these patterns are not recommended for wet or paint stamping, but only guarantee them to give perfect satisfaction, and any lady who does not feel she has obtained more than double value for her money, may return them and her money will be promptly refunded. With every outfit of patterns we send full and complete directions for making the powder and doing the stamping successfully, and such other information as will enable any one to do fine work from the very start. Stamping patterns were never so popular, or so much used as to-day, and FOU should send 50 cents for this great outfit wit lout delay.

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MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



HOLDING HIS OWN.

eral enjoyment," she added.

"If the members so desire it I will put it to the meeting as a question to be voted on," suggested Dorothy, rising.
"Pardon me." said Miss Hayrick, standing up in her place. "It will be perhaps necessary to state my reasons for bringing up this question again at this meeting. In view of the possible—I may say probable—success of our appeal to the sheriff, I have been thinking that, should Mr. Jackson be fortunate enough to be able to suppress the Drinking Club, it would be incumbent on us as a body to tender him a vote of thanks. To be dignified, this should be done in our own club and in his presence—for that purpose we should have to break one of the rules of the club to accommodate the occasion. Now I know, for I have enjoyed much of Mr. Jackson's society, (here came a conscious blush to her cheek) that he is passionately fond of music, loves to play himself and hear others play, and I respectfully suggest that, in a club of this standing, and large membership, we ought to make an effort to keep abreast of the times, and show our visitors when we have any, that we are at least level with the rest of the world in arts and civilization." (Loud applause.)

Almost everybody who was watching Dorothy's face during the delivery of this speech, detected a gradual dying out of the frown, which was slowly replaced by one of the most gracious smiles that the President had worn for a long time.

"Well now, Susan," she said, in a familiar and patronizing way, "since you put it in that light. I really There was considerable applause at this, until Mrs. Rubenstein rose and explained that she knew the party in question, but it was evident that Mrs. Traggle had not heard the story aright. As members knew, her (Mrs. Rubenstein's) husband was a pawn-broker in Clovertown and the individual her fellow member alluded to had simply taken his watch to pledge at Mr. Rubenstein's store for the purpose of raising more money to get liquor. (Cries of "Shame!" and "Horrible!")

Miss Wing remarked that it was a great pity that a lady of Mrs. Rubenstein's well known principles should have a husband who, even in the way of business, was unfortunately an aid to thriftlessness and possibly dissipation. She did not see what people wanted a loan for—"You're alone yourself!" interrupted Maria Pullet. "All single young women are. "You're alone yourself!" interrupted Maria Pullet. "All single young women are. "You're alone while in the presence of such well-behaved company!"

"Aint you sorry you spoke?" whispered Mrs. Jones to Maria, who replied by digging her neighber in the ribs with her elbow.

Mrs. Rubenstein begged to be allowed to set her worthy young friend, Miss Wing, right in her business ideas. Her husband, Mr. Rubenstein, was in a legitimate business for the purpose of making money honesely, He did not depend upon the custom of the third way, in the relief of the purpose of making money honesely, He did not depend upon the custom of the third way, in the relief of the routh, I was afraid of the expense. Howell, and the relief to the routh, I was afraid of the expense. Howell, and the relief to the routh of the routh, I was afraid of the expense. Howell, and the relief to the routh of the rou



The Millionaires of New York.

HN D. ROCKEFELLER OF THE GREAT STANDARD

WHAT THE MAN WITH THE GREATEST INCOME IN THE WORLD LOOKS LIKE.

Chas. A. Dana, the well known editor of "The Sun," in a recent article on the wealth of several prominent New York financiers places the income of the lesident of the Standard Oil Company in the neight irhood of twenty millions of dollars every year. The next largest is William Waldorf Astor, with an timated income of fourteen millions. The Vanderbilts and Jay Gould were put down at the modest sum of ten and six millions respectively. These figures are startling and deserve consideration. Following the Biblical promise that to him that hath shall be given these enormous fortunes, increase every year with gigantic strides. Interest and compound interest, principal and capital continue to pile up a rate alculated to make the average man pause in be vilderment at so colossal an aggregate. Compared with Rockefeller, Jay Gould's resources are modest. His holdings are constantly changing in value, and



AN OIL DOCK IN NEW YORK.

though he is not likely to suffer any serious diminu-tion of fortune, yet his property consisting as it does largely of railroad securities must be constantly watched. There are few moments free from anxiety; jealous and antagonistic rivals constantly threaten the Gould properties, and when opportunity offers a hostile board of management is quickly placed in control.

the Gould properties, and when opportunity offers a hostile board of management is quickly placed in control.

With John D. Rockefeller the case is different. Aside from the enormous responsibility such a vast possession of wealth naturally brings, there is little clese to disturb the even tenor of his way. Among his associates he enjoys an almost fanatic regard. To their eyes he is the most wonderful financier of the age. His partners, though men of great experience and themselves millionaires many times over, sit subservient and every action of their president receives immediate and hearty assent. Not the Czar of all the Russias is regarded with more abject adoration than John D. Rockefeller in the office of the Standard Oil Company, and the story of this man's career is more wonderful than any tale of the "Arabian Nights" and the Monte Cristo of fact.

John D. Rockefeller some thirty years ago was the keeper of a small general store in Cleveland, Ohio, and among the articles kept in his store was kerosene oil. The great oil fields of Pennsylvania were as yet undiscovered, but when Nature unlocked the wealth that was hitherto unsuspected a new era opened for American commerce that was destined to outrival the discovery of gold in California. Rockefeller soon saw that the great secret of making money was to control an article of prime necessity and place it on the market at a price that would make consumption



HE KEPT A SMALL COUNTRY STORE.

practically boundless. The great obstacle was the enormous freight charges and the diversified interests of the different men engaged in the business. For these reasons the cost of American oil by the time it reached the seaboard was so enhanced that it was an impossibility to compete with Russia with her convict labor government railroads, and cheap operating expenses. Rockefeller conceived the idea of introducing pipe lines which solved the problem of transportation; but how was he to raise the hundreds of millions necessary for such a gigantic scheme? Oil was then selling at about 45c. per gallon. His idea was that it could be sold for one-third

or one-half that price and the demand would increase more than tenfold. It took some hard work to get the start, but a short line to Cleveland proved the correctness of his theory and now oil is pumped directly from the wells in Pennsylvania into a huge pipe through which it runs all the way to New York, where it is stored for refining. Gradually one oil refinery after another was bought in till new the Stard and Oil Company are masters of the situation. Their ships are nothing but one huge tank; the oil is pumped right into them and they set sail with a port in view (also owned by the Standard) where they can discharge their cargo directly into barrels for the foreign market. It is all very well to howl about monopoly, and though it is hard to see one get so much while all the others have hard scratching, the fact still remains that without the Standard Co oil to-day would be selling for double the money and the vast business done with foreign lands would not exist.

to-day would be selling for double the money and the vast business done with foreign lands would not exist.

No external evidence of the wealth of this great, corporation is ever made. None of the partners are prominent either as social leaders, politicians, or men about town. In their office at 26 Broadway there is no vulgar display of great influence or power. The wonderful policy of retirement pursued by Rockefeller is rigidly adhered to by the partners. No one ever sees their pictures in the papers. No one ever sees a representation of the manorial castles in which they live. They do not build their homes where the crowd can stand and gaze upon them with mingled feelings of awe and indignation. The two Rockefellers have magnificent estates up the Hudson in Tarrytown, just above Jay Gould.

Flagler has one near Marmaroneck on the Sound. Starbuck has one in Eye and Chas. Frat had one in Brooklyn. But they all pursue the same policy of scretiveness affected by the ruling spirit of the firm. How it is possible for one man to impress half adozen others with his own spirit shows the extraordinary ability of John D. Rockefeller as a leader of men. Take any half dozen of men who are all millionaires themselves and you generally find one or two selfassertive souls among them; but here all is quiet and serene. As John D. goes so goes the Standard Oil Company. This great monopoly snaps its fingers at legislation, snubs politicians, ignores the newspapers. Even Jay Gould likes the press to speak well of him,



AN OIL WELL IN PENNSYLVANIA.

but the Standard people won't cross the street to conciliate the most powerful journal in the country. This shows the almost impregnable position which they occupy. There is no sign upon the door of the Broadway edifice and the interior of the office is but little different from that of an ordinary counting house. The offices however are scattered through the building and when the secretary desires to call on some fellow officer he puts his hat on, is raised by the elevator, discusses the question that brought him there and returns to his own quarters when the interview is ended. The call is ceremonious in the extreme.

Mr. Rockefeller is by no means and we want to the contract of the contract of the contract of the call is ceremonious.

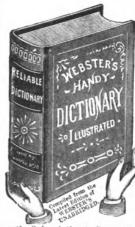
Mr. Rockefeller is by no means an old man and is perhaps in the neighborhood of 46. Last year his daughter wedded a son of Supreme Court Justice Harlow and as a wedding gift received a check for one million dollars.

He is a great lover of church and Sunday-school; his benefactions to the latter reaching many thou-

He is a great lover of church and Sunday-school; his benefactions to the latter reaching many thousands. In Cleveland he is superintendent of the Surday-school and spends a great deal of time in it. At present he suffers from nervousness brought on by overwork, and is likely to be an invalid should he fall to bey Nature a little more than he does. He is not a tremendously built man, but is of a wiry nature and is capable of an enormous amount of hard work. He is abstemious in his habits and none know better than he the value of a sound body and a sound mind. He is careful of his health in regard to eating and drinking, but does not seem to care much about his nervous system. Take him all in all his is the most remarkable figure in New York's financial world, and if judged by his work alone is the greatest creator of property the world has yet produced.

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hapter

THE DISCOVERY.

His brother Richard had been murdered. When Michael Bering arrived the police

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were already there and had begun their investigation. The old gentleman had been found dead upon the floor in his library by one of the servants who was about to lock up the

library by one of the servants wno was about to lock at house.

The opened safe, the ransacked desk, the general confusion of the room made plain, the authorities thought at first, the object of the crime. That some one had tried to rob the old man they had no doubt, but whether of money or papers they could not determine. They found in one of the drawers of the safe a considerable sum of ready money, and in others many negotiable securities; but even this discovery helped them little toward a certain conclusion. No one could tell whether these had been left behind because the criminal did not want them or whether he had been surprised at his and so forced to go without his reward.

that evening when Michael was so summoned to his brother's he

did not want them or whether he had been surprised at his work and so forced to go without his reward.

On that evening when Michael was so summoned to his brother's house he had found Mary Irving, the ward of his brother and an inmate of his house, deeply affected by the sudden calamity; but strong and resolute to bear her misfortunes brayely. To Michael she made as little show of her grief as she could; but then and afterwards in the quiet of her own room Mary Irving shed many tears and night after night she cried herself to sleep. In the morning she awoke to new grief and new fears. Midway in her dressing sometimes, consciousness of the suspicion, now so apparently shared in by so many that Richard was really the culprit, came over her and she threw herself again upon her disordered bed in despair, saying in her helplessness:

"Oh, Richard, Richard," she would cry, "why don't you come home? Why don't you come back?"

And tears would come again to her relief. Often she would think of Michael Bering and she would straightway become angry and indignant.

"How dare he suspect him?" she would ask herself. "And how dare he show me?"

Her loyalty to Richard and her faith in him never wavered; but gradually a new fear came to her. As day after day went by and nothing was heard of Richard she began to fear that some misfortune had befallen him too, and that she might never see him again. It was hard to bear; but whatever grief or suffering she bore she hid from those about her. Until the day of the funeral she avoided Michael Bering. Then as she made part of the procession she shuddered as she touched him. She felt toward him a greater distrust than she ever had before, a distrust she could have given no reason for but which was none the less real and certain. But Michael Bering made no sign.

A few days after the funeral the officials in charge permitted Michael Bering.

but which was none the less real and certain. But Michael Bering, sign.

A few days after the funeral the officials in charge permitted Michael Bering, as the nearest relative of the murdered man, to take charge of the papers and documents in the desk and safe after they had themselves examined and inventoried them. Michael went carefully over them. He was gratified to find that the provisions of his brother's will, which he claimed to discover, all blood stained, among the other papers, gave him even more power over his estate and over Mary's than he had hoped for.

"We seem to be rid of young Richard," he said to himself musingly. "There's something in that; there is a great deal in that."

He made his examination thoroughly and leisurely. Then he sought Mary Irving.

He made his examination thoroughly and reliable.

Irving.

"Mary." he said abruptly, "you have avoided me."

"It is true; I have," she responded in her straightforward manner, and she rose as if to leave the room.

"Wait a minute, Mary." His vanity was wounded, and he was very angry; but he controlled himself and went on calmly. "I will not question your wisdom. No, nor your taste. But now it is necessary that we talk of business together. Will you sit down?"

Mary quietly seated herself and waited for him to continue.

"Mary," he began after a few minutes silence, "your father's will—you know its provisions?"

"No," she answered simply.

"Richard, my brother, never told you then? That was not right."

"I know that Uncle Richard did what was best and right for me," she said angrily.

None evening in the early fall Mr. Michael Bering sauntered slowly down in the cool night air to make a call, as he afterwards said, upon his elder brother Richard who lived in an old fashioned house to the westward of Washington Square. Slowly for some years encroachments had been made upon the respectability of the neighborhood; but just here where Richard lived it was still pleasant.

When near the house he saw his nephew Richard, Jr., leave it suddenly and run rapidly down the stoop, to the nearest corner and then southward. He was puzzled, as he said, and he followed young Richard but in a little while he lost sight of him. Then he reflected that it was too late for him to make the call he had intended and besides, as he said to himself, "They have quarrelled, he and his father. A call might not be opportune."

So he turned upon his heel and retraced his steps, going now to his own apartments on upper Fifth Avenue. He had not been long at home when a messenger came in hot haste to summon him to his brother's house.

"No," she answered simply.

"Richard, my brother, never told you then? That was not right."

"I know that Uncle Richard did what was best and right for me," she said angrily.

"No doubt," Michael Bering answered. "That is—but I shall make no comments. I will tell you the fact. Your father's will was a very strange one. It showed an extraordinary faith in human nature in general and in Richard."

"In Med d."

"And you say that he disinherited me. I think that he did what was bestforme."

"He knew my brother very well; but he gave him a great deal of power. There is a reference in the will to certain verbal directions or requests. What they were of course, we do not know."

Bering in particular, to say the least."

"It was right that he should. They were friends always. They were in business together, too."

"Very good, but practically your father disinherited you."

"I cannot believe that he did anything so cruel—why, he loved me. There must be some mistake."

"However that may be," Michael went on calmly, "he left all his property, and it was very large, to my brother, not in trust for you, but absolutely. 'Having full confidence,' the will says, 'in the integrity of my dear friend Richard Bering, and in his ability to so manage, for the future benefit of those who should maturally be my heirs and beneficiaries, whatever property I shall die possessed of, if it be incorporated with his own, I do bequeath, etc., giving to him everything in that way.' It was a very strange will indeed."

"And you say that he disinherited me. I think that he did what was best for me."



"And I have no doubt either," Mary broke in with, "that Uncle Richard did manage it all as my father

"And I have no doubt either," Mary broke in what, "that Uncle Richard did manage it all as my father thought he would."
"Your loyalty does you credit, but I beg that you will be patient. I have much yet to tell you. I have not found any statement which shows how much your father left, but I suppose that is not important as there is a further provision in the will that none of Richard Bering's acts as legatee or sole executor shall be questioned. Now we come to my brother's will. In the beginning he mentions his intentions to give you, or to put in trust for you or your children, at your marriage, or if before his death you should express a desire for a separate establishment, a very large sum of money. Then he directs that at his death whatever money or property he shall die possessed of, after the payment of a few stated legacics, shall be divided equally between you and his son Richard, from your share to be deducted whatever he may have given you, and that, in case only one of you survives him, that one shall inherit all. He never was called upon to give you anything?"
"No, dear Uncle Richard! Poor Dick!" Mary murmured.
"Then he appoints Richard and me as his executors,

"No, dear Uncle Richard! Poor Dick!" Mary murmured.

"Then he appoints Richard and me as his executors, either or both of us to qualify. Perhaps it will be proper for me to add that under the will I am to receive a considerably larger fee than is usual, I belive, for my services as executor."

"If—if," Mary began, but she broke down and a sob or two escaped her. Then she went on, "If Richard should be dead too?"

"If he died first all will be yours; if he survived his father, why, I am his natural heir. But we must not think of that."

"No. no," she said, "he must come back. I know he will come back."

Michael Bering said nothing to strengthen her faith or to weaken it. Had Mary looked at him his manner would not have reassured her.

"Within a few days I shall have prepared an inventory and the usual schedules."

"If I member—can you—shall you qualify as executor alone?"

"I think I shall have to. Very much was left to the discretion of the executors, as to time and manner of making the division; but I shall try to follow your wishes. I will consult with you as to everything."

"Thank you," she replied simply.

"Thank you," she replied simply.

"Thank you," she replied simply.

thing."
"Thank you," she replied simply.
"And, Mary," he said, "we shall be thrown much together. I hope you will regard me in a little more kindly way."
The tenderness in his voice and manner offended her. She rose quickly, "I—I think I am tired," she said, "if you will let me I will go to my room."
As Michael Bering left the house he stopped to light a cigar.

As Michael Bering light a cigar.
"I think I did that rather well," he said to himself.
He went on reflectively, "Half is a good deal; but it may not be easy to prove that Richard died last. It would hardly be discreet, to say the least. No, I think I had better not try it—and the whole is worth atriving for."

would hardly be discrete, to say the whole is worth striving for."
Although Michael Bering seemed to be so certain that his nephew had either died or would not return to claim his inheritance, he was at heart puzzled. He hoped the police would soon know something; but he took no active steps to help them. His manner, but not his carefully guarded words, showed that he believed that young Richard had killed his father. Prom day to day the official whose ghoulish duty it is to conduct the first judicial investigation of sudden deaths, postponed his final inquest. Every day the police authorities promised that they would surely have some knowledge; but every night they were compelled to confess to another day of defeat and disappointment,
The abscence of Richard, Jr., puzzled them and moved them to suspicion. They did all they could to find him; but for a long time they found no trace of him, the earth or the sea had opened and swallowed him.

him, the earth of the sea had opened and shims.

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HAT with Valentine's Day, Washington's birthday, and the World's Fair articles in February number of Comport and the 20 page edition which the Editor has given us for the past three months, I am sure all will agree with me that Comport has grown to be a very welcome friend, and my letters all tend to show me that our paper is making new friends of every one who sees a copy of it for the first time. Can anything be more interesting than a paper with a large variety of topics, and not all given up to one line of plain reading? I have had numerous letters telling me what a nice looking picture "Little Polly" made in February number, and have decided to intersperse our department with cuts of different things from time to time. I am very grateful to all for the confidence you repose in me, and will endeavor to answer all your questions to the best of my ability. And speaking of ability, do we not form that part of our makeup ourselves? and do we not discover that we can overcome seemingly insurmountable difficulties, when we exert ourselves in that direction? Go about almost anything in the world with a will and determination to carry it through, and success will crown our efforts in almost every case. A young friend has asked how deep a meteorite falling from space and coming inside the earth. This of course would depend on the kind of soil on which it struck and the weight of the meteorite, some of them being very large, and others quite small. I do not doubt but that many of the large round rocks we find in our fields are of this class of material, and many times if a smooth round rock is split open it is foun 1 to contain beautiful formations of crystal, take for instance a rock eight or nine inches in diameter, and split it and you find it will make a fine pair of ornaments for the doorsteps. And in answering this question I am reminded of the Irishman who was passing a newly dug well into which a man had fallen and on hearing the cry for help from below, got on his knees and looked down into the well, when th



GE andy in Commission Street

I have here a very interesting answer to our question in a late number as to the names and derivation of the same, of the Seven Hills of Rome, and I thank the writer, James E. Connell, Cumberland, Md., for the pains he has taken to cut out all the dry and uninteresting points, and for the congiseness of his answers, and although it will come somewhat in the line of the work of the History Club and begging the pardon of Meganesan I will give the letter here.

here.

Dear Uncle Josephus: —This letter acquaints you with one of whom perhaps you have never heard before. Am a constant reader of Compour, and like to read your soliloquies very much. Thus drinking in, with heart and soul all attention, the various letters of your correspondents, I came upon the query of Oliver T. Zeno.

Your cordial invitation to young Latin students to satistic his thirst for antiquity. Upon close application and careful study the following is what my primitive attempt can afford:

Opon close application and careful study the following is what my primitive attempt can afford:

The celebrate, stood are the P ium, a statue of fallen from hea ven, and with the preservation of which the sa fety of Rome was subsequently thought to be connected.

Aventine, na med thus in honor of Diana, in whose honor a magnificent temple was erected thereon.

Capitoline, tis said that in digging the foundation for the temple dedicated to the three gods of the Latin and Etruscan religions, Jupiter, Junion and Minerva by Tarquin, the laborers for and a human head (Latin, caput), hence the na me.

Cœlian, the is appelative was given in honor of the innah ittants of this hill whose primitive home was in Cœtes.

Quirinal, probably from (Quiris) the Sabine word for separa, or from Quirites an appellation of the Sr.

Vimin is so-called from a thicket of such trees or bushes, which grow upon it close by the altar lof Jupiter, who is therefore called Viminius.

Esquilitation, this place was once in bad repute, as being a place for the dead paupers and

the altar of Jupiter, who is therefore called Viminius Esquillian, this place was once in bad repute, as being a place for the dead paupers and criminals, but was afterwards cleansed and made ple asant, which gives rise to its name.

A little friend in the West asks me some questions regarding the manner of conducting a small circulating library, and in answering him I will describe one of which I was a regular patron some years ago when in a prominent Western city. A maiden lady of moderate means was housekeeper for her brother, a widover, and as her household duties did not occuly her whole time, she got permission from ler brother to use one bright pleasant roon access to which was gained by a side entrane, for the purpose above named. He willingl consented and rendered her much assistance in her work, as also substantial aid by selecting many books from his valuable library

which he gave her. A charge of ten cents a week was made on all books let out and a card issued to each person with name of book and the date ou which it must be returned written on it with nik. A fine of two cents per day was imposed for neglect or failure to return the book at the proper time, and another book could not be taken out until the former one had been returned in good order. The city had a fine circulating library but some of the conditions of this one could not be complied with by all classes of readers, hence many were barred from its privileges, but the one described above exactly met the demand. Miss N. kept a memorandum book and put down the name of each book called for which was not in her collection and when she had received three calls for the same book, it was at once added to the stock, and she told me that many of her books paid for themselves several times each year. She also made it a practice when a regular and good customer asked for a certain book onto on her list to purchase it as certain to continuous and the search of the same profit in it for me. And I would advise a number of temperance works in your library, temperance stories and a few books of statistics, and above all have instructive reading, do not fill your shelves with half baked novels, but select wholesome food for the mind, just as on going to market you would select wholesome food for the mind, just as on going to market you would select wholesome food for the mind, just as on going to market you would select wholesome food for the mind, just as on going to market you would select wholesome food for the mind, just as on going to market you would select wholesome food for the mind, just as on going to market you would select wholesome food for the mind, just as on going to market you would select wholesome food for the mind, just as on going to market you would select wholesome food for the mind, just as in circulation and at encent piece would not furnish the purchasing value of the smallent in paper money to meet t



First striking printer—"They put women in our places at the case, but they went out when the walking delegate spoke to them." Second striking printer—"What did he say?" First striking printer—"He stuck his head in at the door and yelled 'Rats!" "Truth.

nead in at the door and yelled 'Rats!' "—Truth.

Of course they went out, for how could they stay in when anyone said "Rats!" Trusting this windy spring month finds all my young friends well and hearty, ready to go out into the glad warm showers of April, and enjoy the beautiful sunshine of May, and that the summer months may yield you all much valuable fruit, I will say good-bye for March and hope to have several thousand more descriptions of the trip around the world for the Camera prize.

Your loving,

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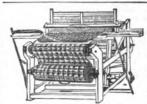
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When Sheriff Jackson returned to his home one afternoon in March, he was somewhat surprised to find three ladies in the front parlor waiting to interview him. They were Dorothy, Mrs. Pullet and Selina Jones, and their business was to enlist his aid and sympathy in suppresing Caleb's club. Mr. Jackson received the delegation graciously and immediately interested himself in their errand. It was, he said, an outrage on the community at large that such a law-defying association as this supposed political club should exist in Tattleback, and, in his capacity as upholder and defender of the majesty of the law, it should be his one aim and endeavor to suppress the club by all constitutional means. This gallant speech caused all the ladies to smile as sweetly as they knew how, and they became so voluble in their thanks that Mr. Jackson seemed intensely relieved when Susan Hayrick came into the room to ask him if he was ready for supper, but what took Selina Jones by surprise and made her stare in amazement was the way in which Miss Hayrick cheekily addressed the sheriff.

"George dear," she said, "what time would you like your supper," George dear! The ladies fairly gasped for breath, but Susan was as cool and self-possessed as if she were talking to her younger brother. And their astonishment was intensified yellows and the sheriff for his kind reselyes out.

Her was the suppromises of assistance, they bowed themselyes out.

Between that afternoon and the March meeting of the Tattleback Tea Table Club a week later, the news had been industriously circulated that Susan Hayrick had "set her cap" for Sheriff Jackson, and that an immediate wedding would doubless be the result. On the assembling of the business and the meeting being formally declared open, Dorothy and the meeting being formally declared open, D



"SHE CONCLUDED TO FACE THE MUSIC,"

"SHE CONCLUDED TO FACE THE MUSIC,"
and so seated herself at the piano, modestly asking
what they wished her to play.
"Oh!" cried Dorothy, "do you know Maggie
Murphy's Home?"
"Indeed, is she?" asked Susan, "Well it is about
timesshe went home, for we have really got tired of
her being at large!"
The laugh that followed this joke of Miss Hayrick's
was only drowned by the sound of the piano, from
which proceeded the enchanting strains of the latest
opera, skiffelly rendered by Susan, whom everybody
at once recognized as quite an accomplished player.
All congratulated her at the conclusion of her performance.
When all the ladies had returned to their places in
the meeting-room below, and Dorothy had rapped
her oorkscrew gavel for silence—a most unusual

When all the ladies had returned to their places in the meeting-room below, and Dorothy had rapped her corkscrew gavel for silence—a most unusual thing to obtain in a room where there are over four score women—Mrs. Jagger's Elifel Tower like figure was seen to loom up in the centre of the apartment, and she proceeded to read as follows, in a voice that reminded one of a circular saw cutting through a pine log.

"Fellow members. I have asked the privilege tonight of giving you some account of the Debating Society attached to this club, and which was proposed and founded by myself in this room some monthelago. We have to-day ladies, twelve members of our class including myself, and when I mention that Mrs. Mentor—she whose lamented husband died lastweek of paralysis of the nerves and general shock to the system—is one of our leading lights you will readily recognize the extraordinary power which this practice of debate has given to some of us. Why, the lady in question could scarcely talk at all three months ago, her husband used to bully her, and she had no power to answer him, but, by persistent study and practice she gradually acquired a volubility and logical accumen that began to tell by degrees upon her husband's manner, until finally, her garrulity and persistent habit of cross questioning, compelled his coarser nature to succumb and take to his bed in a despair from which, unfortunately for her, he never ecovered. Not only is she now deprived of his support and protection, but she has lost the sole person which who she had any ambition whatever to debate on household matters. (Here handkerchiefs were in treat requisition throughout the room—most of the undershed her cambries to wipe their noses.) Mrs. Sproul, Mrs. McIntosh, Mrs. Chadwick and Mrs. Perine have so mastered the intricacies of logic and the power of rapid enunciation since our classes commenced, that they themselves gleefully admit the complete conquests they have

had over their husbands. Even a ferocious man like Jacob Grumm has been forced into abject submission since Mrs. Grumm learned to talk. She used to be afraid of him, now the conditions are reversed.

"So much for the good effects of our class. Now, with your permission I will read you an accurate transcription of our last debate, the subject being, 'Should the Husband Rule the Wife?' The discussion was commenced by Mrs. Sproul, whose 246 pounds give her some weight hin the community. She proceeded to show her hearers that



A WOMAN'S WEIG.

with the majority of men was an entirely erroneous one. In taking the affirmative side of the question, she quoted Scripture lavishly, and cited numerons instances from the ancient history of many civilized countries to show that it has been an understood thing from Eve's time down to the present day, for the wife to be subject to her husband in all things. Mrs. Sproul declared that though she had been married for over eighteen years, she did not remember a single instance when her husband had attempted to tyrannize over her, or contradict her in any particular. There was nothing to prevent him doing so if he wished to, though possibly their relative sizes might have something to do with the matter. (Mr. Sproul was 4 ft. 11 inches high, and weighed about 110 pounds, and it was a matter of current gossip that his mental calibre was of the smallest attainable size.)

"Mrs. Chadwick added it was perfectly true as Mrs. Sproul had said, that Scriptural and ancient history afforded abundant proof that the wives of old were physically and morally slaves to their so-called lords and masters. It was also true that their sex had purposely been kept for ages in the still worse bondage of ignorance. There had been a sinister motive fn that of course, but with the march of civilization and the spread of education, there came light, knowledge and action! As a general rule women were not by any means as strong physically as men, nor could not fill as responsibly and respectably as any man in the United States. Nay, she would even go further and say, that the majority of educated women were cleverer than the majority of educated women were cleverer than the majority of educated women were cleverer than the majority of educated men. Woman was, in her opinion, the equal, and in many cases undoubtedly the superior of her husband, and that being the first many could reason why she should be considered or treated as an inferior being.

"Mrs. McIntosh remarked that she could not conscientiously agree with the last speaker, if she in

ing the fact, she could not see any valid reason why she should be considered or treated as an inferior being.

"Mrs. McIntosh remarked that she could not conscientiously agree with the last speaker, if she intended to take up the position that a wife was in no may subject to her husband. She thought it a reasonably fair argument that a woman was, in a sense, subject to the man upon whom she depended for her support, and for that of her children. In those rare cases when a woman with money married a poor man, and had to keep him, there was, of course, good ground for her resenting the slightest show of tyranny or "lord" ship, but in ninety-nine cases in a hundred, though a woman married a man principally because she loved him, yet she consented to the union only on the tacit understanding that her husband would provide her with a home and all life's comforts that he could procure, for the term of her natural life. Mrs. Perine thought that Mrs. McIntosh had overlooked the fact that even though a husband provided his wife with many comforts, he instinctively looked to her to comfort and cheer him through life. She it was who made his home comfortable and happy, who prepared his meals, washed his clothes, starched his shirts, darned his socks, and a thousand and one other little things which a man was wholly incapable of doing for himself, and yet which greatly tended to make his life happy and free from care. As regards life's comforts, the paying for them did not always procure them, and she thought it would be found to be an incontrovertable fact that man was more indebted to non to comfort. When any wone of them could was large from care of them could were large of them of the word of the word of the course.

debted to woman for his earthly happiness than vice versa.

"Mrs. Grumm said she did not see why such stress was laid upon "Comfort," when any one of them could obtain it for 25 cents a year. (Loud laughter.)

"Mrs. Martin said she felt herself placed In a position where she could neither take the affirmative nor negative. She did not really think there should be any undue authority vested either in man or wife, but that the two be always considered, and consider each other, as equals. Happy marriages were founded on this kind of a union, where the motto of each was to 'bear and forbear,' each gave in to the other, and neither ever claimed to be master. (Mrs. Jagger paused in her reading, in order to collect breath enough to deliver her own share in the debate.)

lect breath enough to deliver her own share in the debate.)

"The President, Mrs. Jagger, said that inasmuch as she considered woman had a nobler mission in this world than that which had been entrusted to man, she would be compelled to take the negative side of the question. Man was the stronger of the sexes, but he was also the most selfish and had a coarser nature. He was styrannous and unsympathetic by instinct. His views were narrow, his aims and ambitions sordid in the extreme, his fancies changeable, his mind inconstant. Woman was the reverse—gentle, affectionate, tolerant, forgiving, intellectual, refined, and as far above man in every good way as the sky was above the earth. There was, from her point of view, no reason whatever why man should dominate over woman, because in the first place he was totally unfitted to govern, and did not command respect enough to be willingly obeyed by intelligent women. He was full of vices, she of virtue, another reason why he should not have authority over her, and she would have to claim for her sex that in every intellectual respect it was superior to man. She would not allow any man breathing to lord it over her, she would not obey his commands or observe his requests unless it suited her so to do, and she had determined years ago to take no notice whatever of her husband's orders, nor did she ever intend to in future."

It was at this juncture that, after a slight tap on

the door a thin little man with red hair peeped into the room, and looked earnestly around.

"Martha Jagger!" he cried, in a squeaky voice.

"Yes, David," replied that lady faintly.

"Jest you come right home and stop this gossiping business. You know my black pants want mendin' before I can go to town to-morrow!"

"All right, David dear," said the giantess timidly, and to the astonishment of the Tattleback Tea Table Club the valiant Martha slunk away into the exterior darkness, escorted by her diminutive lesser half!

(To be continued.)

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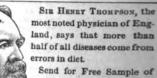


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COMMENTS or COCKING.

Dear Cousins:

We are coming to the hard time for hon experies; nothing in the market to help and help and worst of all, that dreaded house-cleaning looming in the distance, not so very far off. I know of some terribly neat and exceedingly foolish people who, even in our cold New England climate, will persist in cleaning house in March, "because Mother always did"; down comes every stove in the house, and their families sneeze, shiver and cough through the remainder of the chilly, changeable Spring. Don't do this, my house-keeper cousins. Health is better than neatness, and the comfort of your family should be p'aced before any traditional notions about times and seasons. We must clean, I admit, but April and May will give us plenty of warm, sunny days which will be much better for such undertakings than this blustering month.

This has been a season of much illness throughout the country, and doctors and nurses have been in demand. It is always difficult to find dishes to tempt an invalid's capricious appetite, and I am glad to have a few recipes in that line to give you this time, sent in by a thoughful cousin.

A FINE JELLY.

Cover 2 ounces of gelatine with cold water.

sent in by a thoughtful cousin.

A FINE JELLY.

Cover 2 ounces of gelatine with cold water, and let soak I hour, add I pound of sugar and a pint of boiling water, stir until the sugar is dissolved, and add a pint and half of cranberry juice. Strain and pour into a shallow pan and set on ice or in a very cold place. Cover 2 ounces more of gelatine with cold water and let soak, pour over a quart of boiling water, I pound of sugar, the juice of 2 lemons with the grated yellow of the rind, stir until the sugar is dissolved, strain in a shallow pan and set to cool. When firm and hard cut in little blocks, and heap on a large dish the red and yellow jellies alternately.

ORANGE CREAM.

Orange cream is a change, a relish sometimes when nothing else seems to satisfy the callings of a disturbed and unnatural taste. Grate 3 oranges into 2 cups of cold water, and beat up with 2 eggs. Sweeten, strain, simmer slowly till it thickens, and cool in glasses.

Fresh eggs for invalids who like them soft.

with 2 eggs. Sweeten, strain, simmer slowly till it thickens, and cool in glasses.

SOFT BOILED EGGS.

Fresh eggs for invalids who like them soft should be put in a pan of boiling water and set on the stove where they will not boil, for several minutes; at the end of that time they will be like a jelly, perfectly soft, but beautifully done, and quite digestible.

LONG MADE BEEF TEA.

Get 2 or 3 pounds of shin of beef; remove all the skin and the marrow from the bone; cut the meat into small pieces, and have the bone broken up. Take also a knuckle of veal—that is, just the knuckle bone—have it broken up, and put all into a strong earthen jar. Place the jar into a large saucepan of hot water, and tie the cover down with a piece of stout brown paper, using neither salt nor pepper on the meat. Let it boil slowly all day. When done, the jar will be filled with meat gravy; strain this, and when cold it will be a strong jelly. In summer this may be served cold, and in winter pour hot water over a portion, and you have beef tea. This will keep a week in summer, in a cool place, and much longer in winter. M. E. F.

What an institution canned goods are! for we can have them at all times of the year. Here is a receipt for something which will help in making a variety in the bill of fare, with the assistance of the ever-present can.

SALMON CROQUETTES.

To one 1 lb. can of salmon take 1 egg and 3 soda crackers, and stir well together. Make in very small cakes; then beat 2 eggs, and roll the cakes first in egg and then in rolled cracker and fry in half butter and half lard. Try it cousins, you will find it good.

Will also give a recipe for

When you "don't know what on earth to have for dinner," try this.

for dinner," try this.

FRIED FORK STEW.

Put several slices of rather lean salt pork on the fire in a large kettle and fry till a nice brown, have ready 4 quarts of boiling water and pour over the meat when done. Add one dozen potatoes pared and sliced 1-2 inch thick, 4 good sized onions, 2 carrots, scraped and sliced thin, 2 teacups of turnip cut in very small pieces, salt and pepper to taste. When this has boiled 20 minutes, add dumplings and cover closely and cook 15 minutes longer. The stew should be well covered with soup when dumplings are added, or it will burn on and spoil. A delicious dish for dinner.

DUMPLINGS.

DUMPLINGS.

I pint of sweet milk, I teaspoonful salt, I teaspoonful of baking powder. Flour to make a stiff dough. Let stand 20 minutes before you put them in to cook.

Here is an excellent recipe for soup, but I have lost the name of the sender. I hope she will pardon the omission.

MACARONI SOUP MACARONI SOUP.

2 small carrots, 4 onions, 2 turnips, 2 cloves.
salt and pepper to taste, herbs, marjoram, parsley and thyme. Any cooked or uncooked meat.
Put soup bones in enough water to cover; when they boil, skim, and add vegetables, simmer 3 or 4 hours, strain through colander and with hack in sourcement to rebest. Boil 1.2 pound put back in saucepan to reheat. Boil 1-2 pound macaroni until quite tender, place in soup tureen, and soup over it—the last thing. Ver-micelli soup is made the same way, only soak vermicelli a short time—not boil.

Try some of these good things for desserts, to make a change.

Take a piece of light dough and add 1 cup of sugar, 2 eggs, 1 cup of butter, and some cinnamon. Mix well and let it raise, when light roll out, spread with butter, cinnamon and sugar, cut in squares and roll, let them raise again, then bake.

gain, then dake.

BATTER CAKES.
3 eggs, 1 quart sour milk, 1 teaspoonful soda,
teaspoonful salt, flour to make a smooth bat-

LEMON CRACKERS 11-2 cups sugar, 1 cup sweet milk, 1-2 cup lard, 1 egg, a little lemon extract, 5 cts. worth ammonia, make rather soft and roll very thin, cut in squares and pick with a fork.

soft Ginger Bread.

3 eggs, 2 cups molasses, 1 cup sour milk, 1 cup utter, 1 teaspoon soda, 1 tablespoon ginger.

Boil a cup of rice very soft, when done add, while hot, a piece of butter the size of a goose egg. Beat 5 eggs very light and add them with 1-2 pound sugar and 11-2 pints of sweet milk, season with lemon; bake one hour.

Cousin Mollie.

COUSIN MOLLIE.

VINEGAR PIE.

Rub between the hands, 1-2 cup of brown sugar and 1-4 cup of flour, put it in the pie crust and fill with vinegar which can be weakened if too strong; bake with 1 crust. It is delicious.

Mrs. M. Dee.

4 tablespoons boiled cider, 3 of water, 3 of sugar, 2 of flour and 1 egg; beat all together and bake with 2 crusts.

TAPIOCA CREAM.

3 tablespoons tapioca soaked in water over night. In the morning pour over 1 quart milk, boil 10 minutes, add 1 cup sugar, yolks of 3 eggs well beaten. Pour in a dish and spread beaten whites over the top; brown lightly.

Mrs. Evie Sprague.

In answer to E. E.'s request I will send a few recipes for cooking rolled oats.

PORRIDGE.

To enough of boiling water to cover it add a cupful of oats, season with a little salt and boil 15 minutes.

Prepare porridge as above, when cold add the yolks of a few eggs, sugar, and grated lemon, and finally the well beaten whites of the eggs; then bake. Butter and serve hot with cream and sugar.

Take 1 cup of porridge, 1 cup of rich milk, 1 cup Indian meal, 1 cup common flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1 of salt, 2 of butter, large tablespoonful of molasses, 4 eggs, stir together, drop in gem-pans and bake in a quick oven.

Will some one send the recipe for making chicken salad, and also the recipe for making mixed pickles?

FLORENCE W.

CURRANT CAKE.

CURRANT CAKE.

11-2 pounds of flour, 1 pound of sugar, 3-4
pound butter, 7 eggs, 1 gill milk, 1-2 teaspoon
saleratus, 1 pound of currants.

SPICE CAKE.

1 cup of molasses, 1 cup of sugar, 2-3 cup of butter, 1 cup of sour milk, 3 eggs, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 teaspoonful nutmeg, 11-2 teaspoonfuls cinnamon, 1 teaspoonful of cloves, 3 cups of flour.

I would like for some of the cousins to tell me how to make tomato catsup. MAY E. R.

Please remember the requests for special recipes, and respond liberally. The older housekeepers must help the younger ones, you know. Your

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MY DEAR FRIENDS:
Are not your hearts glad when you think that the dreary winter is nearly over? March is cold and blustering, to be sure, but the sun shines bright and warm, and the days constantly lengthening, remind us that Summer is on her way to cheer and bless us. Every one is more or less "shut-in" during the cold winter months, but Summer cannot be shut-out, for her sweetness will penetrate even to the invalid's chamber.

A beautiful little poem has been sent me, which I will give you instead of any words of my own this month.

"CUMBERED ABOUT MUCH SERVING." LUKE 10: 40-42.

Christ never asks of us such heavy labor As leaves no time for resting at His feet; The waiting attitude of expectation He oft times counts a service most complete.

He sometimes wants our ear—our rapt attention,
That He some sweetest secret may impart.
Tis always in the time of deepest stillness
That heart finds deepest fellowship with heart.

We sometimes wonder why our Lord doth place us Within a sphere so narrow, so obscure, That nothing we call work can find an entrance; There's only room to suffer—to endure! Well, God loves patience! Souls that dwell in still-

Well, God loves patience! Souls that dwell in stiness,
Doing the little things, or resting quite,
May just as perfectly fulfill their mission,
Be just as useful in the Father's sight.
As they who grapple with some giant evil,
Clearing a path that every eye may see;
Our Saviour cares for cheerful acquiescence,
Rather than for a busy ministry.
And yet He does love service, where 'tis given
By grateful love that clothes itself in deed;
But work that's done beneath the scourge of duty,
Be sure, to such He gives but little heed.
Then seek to please Him, whatso'er He bids thee,
Whether to do, to suffer, or lie still;
"Twill matter little by what path He led us,
If in it all we sought to do His will.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Will some of Comport res

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Will some of Comport readers send pieces of material to finish crazy quilt, also half worn clothing, or anything their hearts may prompt them, that can be of use to a woman who is devoting the best years of her life to an invalid cousin. Thirteen years ago the cousin met with an accident which ruined her health, for four years she has been perfectly helpless excepting her arms; her spine is drawn out of shape, her knees almost meet her chin, still she is cheerful and can sew and embroider. The Dr.'s bills have taken all the money they saved and now the friends do what they can for them. The cousin who cares for her receives no pay, so is dependent upon her friends for clothing. Your hearts would ache if you could see these two women so devoted to each other. Anything sent to me for them as soon as received: Mrs. M. E. SMITH, For S. E. B.

Truly our hearts should be touched by such a story of suffering and self-sacrifice. We can at least send these poor souls a cheering letter, some reading matter, or a few scraps.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—With your permission allow to the property of the suffering and self-sacrifice.

of suffering and self-sacrifice. We can at least send these poor souls a cheering letter, some reading matter, or a few scraps.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—With your permission allow me to occupy a little space in giving some useful information for the benefit of the "Shit Ins." Although I never was shut in but a few days at a time. I know what it is to have ill health. The Psalmist says, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made," and Paul informs to the termination for the benefit of the "Shit Ins." Although I never was shut in but a few days at a time. I know what it is to have ill health. The Psalmist says, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made," and Paul informs us that every man should be "temperate in all things," I Cor. 9: 24-25. The beloved disciple of Jesus left a beautiful testimony on record, "Beloved, I wish above all things that those mayst prosper and be in health, even as the soul prospereth," 3 Jno. 2. Since I gained a knowledge of the laws that govern our being, health under the blessing of God has gradually improved, I have been astonished at the amount of labor I have been enabled to perform during the past few years. I wish to mention a few things that are the cause of sickness, disease and death. I will only call your attention to the use of tea, coffee and tobacco this time. "Why!" says one, "I could not live without tea." Well, I used to think I must drink it for the headache. I have heard some say tobacco was good for the toothache, etc. I propose that all who use these discard them and see if their aches won't be less. Tea is a stimulant, it excites the nerves, causing nervous prostration, and it injures the stomach causing indigestion. When tea is first taken it seems to make one feel better, but when the effect of tea wears off they are worse. Tea causes headache, wakefulness, indigestion, palpitation of the heart and various other evils. Coffee, too, does more harm than many suspect, it is paralyzing both to mental, moral and physical powers. Tobacco is a slow poison, it weakens the brain and blu

Battle Creek, Mich.

There is much truth in these suggestions, and I want to especially add my approval to the one about hot milk. Physicians are now recommending its use as a stimulant in cases of exhaustion, etc., in many instances where whiskey or brandy were formerly employed.

Dear Comfort friends:—My heart is full of thankfulness to-night for all the kind letters and favors received, especially the dollar that one of the King's
Daughters sent. Surely God knows when to send relief. I am one of the "Shut Ins," lame with rheumatism, but can sit and do some light work. I have
taken many nice lace patterns from Comfort. I am
very anxious each month to get the paper, it cheers
and comforts one so much. Wishing you all a happy
New Year.

Greenwich Ave., Stamford, Conn.

These are pleasant words for our King's Daughters

These are pleasant words for our King's Daughters to hear—words of gratitude for the service done In His Name. Yet do not forget, dear Daughters, that we must work on just the same, even though no such reward is vouch-afed us. "Your Father which seeth in secret, Himself shall reward you openly."

"Comfort has been coming to me regularly for several months, and it has indeed been a great comfort to me. I like the that has indeed been a hardly wait till it comes. I like the Chats the best, for I find such good cheering letters full of sympathy for us poor 'Shut Ins.' Yes, dear cousins, it does lighten our burdens and cheers our hearts to know there are so many kind Christians ever ready to scatter seeds of kindness all along our thorny path. I live here in the zinc and lead mines, and if any of the cousins want specimens of either zinc or lead ore, I will exchange for sea shells, sea beans or mosses, lilly bulbs or silk scraps, or send postage for specimens as they are very heavy. I feel very grateful to those who send me reading matter, and I always pass it on to some one else after I read it. I would like some cheerful letters and magazines, and now I want to ask a favor of you and your band; it is, pray for me, that if it is God's will I may be restored to health, and if not that He will give me grace to bear my burden and prepare me for His coming kingdom where I hope we will be a united band and know each other.

Yours sincerely, Mrs. E. E. Tibbens, Carterville, Jasper Co., Mo."

"When will life's task be o'er?

When shall we come to Thee

"When will life's task be o'er? When shall we come to Thee, Calm Land beyond the Sea? The Land beyond the Sea! When will our toil be done? Slow-footed years! more swiftly run Into the gold of that unsetting sun!

Slow-footed years! more swiftly run
Into the gold of that unsetting sun!
Homesick are we for thee,
Calm Land beyond the Sea!"
"Some kind friend has sent me a copy of Comfort which I have enjoyed very much, as I am a partial invalid, often very sick and never very well. I live in a part of the country where the land is very thin and people have to struggle hard to make ends meet. I am poor myself, but we have not been living here long. I have tried to be of use in my weak way, and would be glad if the Comfort friends will help me if they can. There are so many bright young people around here whose parents are not able to buy church clothes for them, and I have started a Sunday-school at my house, but have no books for them. Would be glad if some kind friend would send me some. It does not matter if they are old. Perhaps some S. S. has an old library that they would gladly dispose of in that way. If any one has any old children's magazines, will be glad to receive them. One lady gave us the St. Nicholas magazine for 1879 and 80, but they have all been read. I would not ask for help if I was able to buy the things without; but I cannot bear to see the young things growing up without some one lending a hand to halp them to a knowledge of better things. I ask this in the name of our blessed Mayer who said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Mrs. J. F. Compher, Colvin Rup P. O.,
Fairfax Co., Va.

Express office, Vienna, Fairfax Co., Vu.
May God bless you, dear friend, in your efforts to work for him! Your courage puts us stronger ones

Express office, Vienna, Fairfax Co., Va. May God bless you, dear friend, in your efforts to work for him! Your courage puts us stronger ones to shame. Will not many respond to this eall for books and papers? So many of us, I doubt not, have books and magazines enough lying useless in the garret, to fit out this struggling little Sunday-school with a library, and make the heart of this lonely worker rejoice. Bring out the hid treasures, dear friends, and let us contribute what we can to this good work which is being done in the name of our Master.

"I have been a subscriber to Comport since April

good work which is being done in the name of our Master.

"I have been a subscriber to Comfort since April '91 and it gives me pleasury reading the letters from people throughout the world. It seems queer to me that one can get such good confort a whole year for only 25c. I am not one of those cousins who can tell of good times. I used to enjoy myself when a child, but I took the scarlet fever when only twelve years old which left me very deaf. Nobody who has not been deaf can know what trouble that means. Even though you may be suffering with pain, you are hopeful that it will pass away, and you will come back to health and strength. Or even to chronic invalids I would say do not be discouraged; if you are blessed with sight, hearing and speech, you might find lots to keep your mind in motion and cheer your heart. I almost live on reading and you do not know how happy it would make me to receive letters direct from cousins all over the United States or anywhere else. Do not be afraid you cannot write anything that would be of any interest to me. Any little incident of happenings around where you live or descriptions of your homes or anything you may choose to write; don't matter whether you are educated or not, your letter will be sure to interest me and help pass away my lonely time. I sign myself both loving nicee and cousin, (Miss) JEANETTE RICHMOND, Gibraltar, Ont."

"I have been sick for over 7 years and have not walked a step for over 4 years. Oh how my heart

cousin, (Miss) JEANETTE RIGHMOND, Gibraltar, Ont."

"I have been sick for over 7 years and have not walked a step for over 4 years. Oh, how my heart goes out in sympathy for all those who have tasted and drank from the same bitter cup of affliction as I have, but our best and only comfort is that we shall not stay in this world of pain and sorrow. Sunshine, you expressed my thoughts so minutely in July No. of COMPORT that I have scarcely anything else to say; would like to have you write to me very much, also Kansas Sunflower and many others who would be kind enough to write to me. Now let us try how happy we can make each other, and not how miserable we can make anyone. Let us all bear in mind the Golden Rule, 'Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.' Would it not be a world of peace and joy if we could all fulfill these precious words? With best wishes to all, I am your invalid niece, Miss MARY M. BORNER, Willow Dell, Darke Co., Ohio."

Dear invalid friends:—I trust this may not prove

wishes to all, I am your invalid niece,
Miss Mary M. BORNER, Willow Dell, Darke Co., Ohio."

Dear invalid friends:—I trust this may not prove an intrusion, am afraid I am presuming on the friendship of the "Shut Ins" by entering their circle, not being a "Shut In" any more. I assure you however that my motives are good, and if my few words do not benefit anyone, I trust they may not do any harm. I have a tender feeling for the afflicted, having passed through the furnace of affliction myself, and we know that true sympathy comes from the afflicted. My heart went out to those suffering ones whose letters are inserted in Sept. No. of Comport.

I felt an uncontrollable desire to write a few words of cheer and encouragement to all who frequent this column. Don't despair, dear friends, there is hope for you all, even the very helpless. And with God all things are possible, and on Aug. 3rd He manifested His power by raising me up instantaneously in answer to prayer, to God is due all the honor and glory. To all suffering ones I say, take the Lord for your healer and He will restore and bless those who ask in faith, believing you know "Whatever ye ask in prayer believing ye shall receive," Matt. 21-22. And in James 5: 14-16 we are told how to be healed. Aunt Minerva's corner is becoming very interesting as well as in-

structive, to her and the many cousins I extend my heartiest wishes, and to those in this column my heartfelt sympathy and best wishes for their comfort

recovery.
Sincerely an ex-invalid, Eva L. Scott,
Venice, Wash. Co., Penn.

Names of those wishing reading matter, help and sympathy:
Mrs. E. C. Thompson, Bowens Mills, Barry Co., Mich. Joseph B. Osborae, Jarrett, Kanawha Co., W. Va. M. T. Weldon, West Foint, Ga. Francie H. C., 514 E. Jefferson St., Bloomington, Ills. Mrs. Lizzie Smith, Naples, Ind. Ter.

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The Millionaires of New York.

CYRUS W. FIELD.



Imagine a man of about medium height and a stoop in his shoulders, with a pair of piereing gray eyes, the face surmounted by a snow white beard rather thin, and you have a picture of the Atlantic Cable, builder of the New York Elevated Railroad, Financier and Banker Cyrus W. Field.

Duilder of the New York Elevated Railtond, Financier and Banker Cyrus W. Field.

The Fields are a noted family, three brothers having reached positions of commanding eminence. Mr. Cyrus W. Field, in finance. David Dudley Field as a lawyer, and Stephen Field as a lawyer, and the career of the Field Brothers is one of more than usual interest.

As in the case of most of the men who are in position to day Cyrus W. Field was a poor boy, and thin to the sale of waste paper, and that it was a custom of his to nail up a small business card whenever he could, informing an anxious public that Cyrus W. Field was a dealer in old newspapers and that he would pay the highest price for all merchandise of that nature left at his office. He carried a small hammer in his pocket for this purpose, and it is to be hoped that his enterprise met with a cordial response as doubtless it did. But the great accomplishment of his life, the one by which he will be remembered for years to come, was the laying of the cable between the old and the new world. No man ever entered upon a task that offered so little hope of success, cr that seemed doomed to such utter failure as this hai-brained scheme of connecting two continents by a wire. To begin with the project evolved an immense outlay of money, and capital is notoriously timid especially in a venture that is purely problematical, and which had to meet with several failures before it was finally successful. Each time disaster was encountered made it harder to interest fresh capital. In fact so thoroughly disgusted were his friends at his frequent importunities that they finally came to regard him as a harmless lunatic, crazy on the subject of sub-marine cables. It is the old, old story of perseverance conquering all things. It was a commercial triumph more important in its bearings on human destiny than all the wars of Cæsar and Napoleon. It connected two nations together, and brought London withi

which had been lost seven years before. This enabled the working of two lines so that in event of an accident to one the other remained intact.

It was a great success and the two lines have remained intact ever since. When the first cablegram reached New York from London it created the most intense excitement. Business was immediately suspended and crowds gathered around the bulletin boards of the different newspapers. When night came, enormous processions were organized on the spur of the moment, and staid old merchants surprised at themselves fell into line and marched with the jubilant paraders. Torches, fire works, brass bands and general pandemonium reigned supreme, and the day become one of the most notable in the history of the Empire City. Mr. Field was everywhere received with acclamation and regarded as one of the foremost Americans. Congress presented Mr. Field with a gold medal and the thanks of the nation. France at her great Exposition in '67 bestowed on him her highest award, and the British Government testified its appreciation of Mr. Field's achievement. The Queen sent for Mr. Field, and the acquaintance thus formed ripened into a warm personal friendship. No other American, and in fact few persons in the world can claim a personal friendship with Queen Victoria, but in Mr. Field's case it was one of mutual admiration and sympathy, and the frequent interchange of correspondence between these two distinguished people has rarely had a parallel. This fact alone demonstrates the estewen in which Mr. Field is held abroad, and in the recent affliction which has overtaken him in the disastrous entanglements of his son Edwin, the sympathy felt for him was widespread and sincere.

son Edwin, the sympathy felt for him was widespread and sincere.

The events attending this mortifying occurrence are of such recent occurrence as to scarcely require repetition here. The facts are however that Edwin Field has played fast and loose with the Wall Street crowd, and found himself as many another has been before—completely ruined. How much of his father's fortune went to save the son is hard to determine. At one time it was thought his had all gone; but subsequent events tend to prove that while doubtless a great deal has been lost, there still remains a handsome fortune for his few remaining years. Only two months ago at his home in Irvington, not half an hour's journey from where I write, Mr. Field's wife was laid at rest. Last year they celebrated their golden wedding, and the death of his wife was a severe blow. For the time being it prostrated him, but his wonderful constitution pulled him through and he bids fair to equal his brother in longevity, who is now 91 years of age.

The failure of the son was a severe blow to the father, and the end is not yet. Charges of dishonesty are freely made, which render the case all the more pitiable. An honest failure is bad enough, but to have warrants out for the arrest of his son and partners on a criminal charge is almost beyond endurance. A proud house has been laid low, and a name that is

pitiable. An honest failure is bad enough, but to have warrants out for the arrest of his son and partners on a criminal charge is almost beyond endurance. A proud house has been laid low, and a name that is an heritage is dragged in the dust. An attempt is being made to prove that Edwin Field is insane, and it such is the case, a great feeling of relief will come to all those who know the Field family intimately, and who appreciate their true worth.

Cyrus W. Field is now about 73 years old, but is regularly at his business. Coming up the harbor, the first building sighted from the deck of an ocean steamer is the Field building, which stands on the site of Washington's old headquarters directly facing the battery. It is 13 stories high and cost over two million dollars. This is one of the Field properties. He calls it the Washington building, but the public seem disposed rather to call it after the owner Mr. Field, and it is popularly known as the Field building. This is in direct opposition to the case of Mr. Pulitzer, who is determined that the home of the "World," his great newspaper, shall bear his name. On all his leases, etc., it is stipulated that tennate shall call it the Pulitzer building on their letter heads, etc., but despite all the rules the public resolutely decline to humor him, and refuse to refer to it except as the World building. This is a severe blow to the vanity of this great editor, but it is nevertheless beyond remedy.

It is at the present writing a matter of impossibility

It is at the present writing a matter of impossibility to foretell the fate in store for Edwin Field. He has been indicted for forgery and is now in the City jail. The developments will appear in the daily papers, and the result will be announced before we can make it known in a monthly periodical.

HENDRIK HUDSON.

Don't fail to read all Premium Offers and send in your club for COMFORT, now, while it is but 25 cents a year.



WELL, dear readers, the war cloud has disappeared, and while it may be said that it was never more than a mere speck in the sky yet was it a war cloud nevertheless. Why is it now, I ask you, that the nations of the earth may not dwell in peace together? There is room enough for us all on the face of the globe. Why may we not settle our differences like reasonable people? Why should we be forever and always pointing cannon at each other, why should our swords be so ready to leap from their scabbards upon the slightest provocation? In plain English, I ask you: Why should we be ready to murder each other? Is man nothing but a killing machine, with springs of destruction coiled within him, so that upon merely pressing upon one of his nerves, you set this deadly engine in action and it continues to thrust, strike, slash, stab, until it runs down? Or is he what the great bard of Avon styled him, to wit: Noble in reason, infinite in faculty! In action how like an angel, in apprehension how like a god! The paragon of animals! Possibly both of these views are extreme; but we certainly have inherited from our fiery-spirited forefathers a pronounced inclination to kill. See how the child delights in his toy sword, the youth in his bow and arrow, the man in his fowling piece and rifle. It has been well said that the Englishman's first thought in waking up mornings is to go out and kill something. What terrible demons must we seem to be in the soft and gentle eyes of the deer, the elk and the antelope? What paralyzing shivers of dread must seize upon the quail, the woodcock, the snipe, the wild pigeon, when this stalking figure bearing the thunderbolt in its hands enters their peaceful homes? These are the dragon's teeth from which spring the armed warriors! So long as man remains a hunter, he will remain a fighter. When the day comes that he shall be strong enough to resist this inclination to kill for the mere pleasure of killing there will be hope of reforming him altogether. Meanwhile the women must do their best to put

heaven's blessings on them, are free from this barbarous inclination to go out and kill something.

It is barely possible that there might be such a thing as a just war, a holy war; but be not deceived by your brother's cunning. Your "war maker" is almost always a selfish and ambitious man, who in the name of right and justice, with prayerful countenance and uplifted hand, solemnly asseverates that he—in crying havoel and letting slip the dogs of war—is prompted only by love of his country and deep affection for his fellowman. When will the world become enlightened enough to distinguish her Cæsars from her Cincinnatuses, her Napoleons from her Washingtons? But still more strange, the "war maker" has often been inspired with the idea that the sweet millennium might be reached by wading through rivers of blood, laving waste the fair land and burning and pillaging beautiful cities. For instance, in the Thirty Years' War lasting from 1618 to 1648 and waged by the Catholic princes of Austria, Germany and Spain against the Protestant princes of North Germany and Sweden, the Protestant soldiers were firmly imbued with the idea that they were then fighting the last battles that were destined to spread horror and ruin over the face of Europe; that once their arms were victorious the glorious millennium would be ushered in and the world have its thousand years of love and peace and plenty. And in Cromwell's wars too, there were vast numbers of dreamers who actually imagined that they had conquered a millennium would be come the true saints of the new dispensation and be entitled to the loftiest seats in the synagogue and the best places at the tables of the Lord. Nor is this expectation of the come upon the world con-

glorious peace to come upon the world con-fined to Chris-

But dear readers, we do not need to enlist in order to find fighting to do. We may often enjoy a scrimmage without stepping outside of our front doors. Or, a man by staying out too late may upon reaching home find windows and doors barred against him and much to his surprise discover that there is an assault to be made in order to effect an entrance, that he must become an attacking party, that he even may stand in need of a scaling ladder! As he advances to the attack the voice of the enemy may reach him demanding a parley and it is barely possible that if he accepts the terms offered and gives solemn promises for future good behavior, he may gain admittance without a battle. It all depends upon the strength and character of the enemy holding the fort and upon the causes she had for going to war. We regret to say and we say it with a cheek mantled with the blush of shame that there is sometimes bloodshed in these battles. 'Tis true,' tis pity, and pity' tis, 'tis true. We rejoice to be able to state that these engagements rarely result in any broken limbs or serious wounds, although they may be quite animated for a few moments. For the most part they are wordy contests, bitter and acrimonious, but generally ending in peace and reconciliation, with renewed vows on both sides to try and get along better in the future. When two people agree in all earnestness and solemnity to take each other "for better or worse" they should make up their minds that while they may have but one heart and one soul between them, yet they have two wills, two tempers and two tongues. A man in driving a lazy horse, in milking an unruly cow, in urging a stubborn hen into her coop or in resisting the attacks of an infuriated mother goose will display a fund of gentleness, patience and forbearance that would have delighted Job's heart; but the moment he enters the house and begins to deal with human creatures, his soul is full of fight, and his h art flows over with the spirit of contention. Nothing pleases him, the baby is too noisy, the

power of temptation, the strength of mind necessary to resist evil, and many and many a poor man toils year in and year out without ever without ever receiving a smile of ensmile of en-couragement, a caress of thankfulness, a sweet word of gratitude. Why shouldn't he toil and slave and rack his brain? It's his duty, and yet



have ten dollars by to-morrow night sure!"
"My dear," groaned the good man of the house,
"you are the mustiest woman I ever met!"
Husbands, wives! keep the domestic sky free
from "war clouds." Dissipate them with the
sunshine of forebearance and content, lest they
grow larger and blacker before you are aware
of it. Don't harden your hearts over trifles.
Give in! Don't begin the day with a declaration of war, don't lapse into a state of armed
neutrality, don't keep up hostilities, foolish
wives! Stand on the porch at sunset when the
good man comes and wave your handkerchief
to him as a flag of truce—a sign that the little
spite of the morning hasn't lain and rankled
all day. Foolish husbands, when the standard
of revolt is set up, don't ride rough-shod over
the erring hearts! Inquire into the complain
and remove the cause if it exist. Your mother
was patient with you, be patient with your
children. Your father was patient with his
wife, be patient with yours and when you issue
your ultimatum, don't let it, as Secretary
Blaine's did, exact an apology, for apologies
are humiliating, but it may insist upon a salute
and let that salute be a kiss!

HENRY WARD BEECHER.

HENRY WARD BEECHER.

It is now about four years since the death of one who was probably the greatest preacher the pulpit has yet produced and whose fame as an orator entitles him to rank with the greatest names in history. A few reminiscences therefore from one who was frequently in his church and who had the honor of his personal acquaintance may not be without interest.

His church in Brooklyn is a plain, old-fashioned building known the whole world over and its name Plymouth Church is singularly consistent with the character of the great preacher who made it famous. It is doubtful if ever a building contained such a curious conglomeration of humanity as congregated every Sunday to hear the Great Commoner preach. Seats were reserved for the regular pew holders and visitors were formed in a line that stretched two deep on both sides of the entrance for a distance of more than a block. On special occasions when Beecher was expected to touch on some great questions of the day the crowd was even larger and hundreds were unable to obtain admission and the aisles would be filled with people glad to stand during the service.

Five minutes before the service strangers were admitted and pew holders not in their seats were obliged to take their chances. The regular morning service was attended by an audience of between two and three thousand, though it has contained many more. Not an available inch was lost. Folded chairs



BIRTH PLACE OF BEECHER

your whole soul into it. For twenty years that sweet tune has been one of the pillars of Plymouth church and this morning we have with us the author of this hymn and I want him to know how we love it." And then what a hymn went up! You know mothing of congregational singing if you have never heard Beecher's congregation singing one of their old favorites.

This was one of the features in Beecher's church that always lent additional interest to the service. If he referred to some great event in the public mind he was always able to say, "So and so is with us this morning and in his fight for the right I want him to know that Plymouth church is with him, or 'the author of that bill in Congress is in our house to know that Plymouth church is with him, or 'the author of that bill in Congress is in our house to day," and so it went, always something new, something interesting.

He was always averse to reading public notices from the pulpit and only consented on a few rare occasions. When he did it invariably ensured success to the undertaking. I remember one occasion when he took up a paper and prefaced his remarking with the statement that he departed from his usual custom this morning because the cause warranted the exception. "This time," he said, "it is the children; I am asked to give notice that the Orphans' Asylum in Brooklyn is approaching the holiday season and they want all the help they can get." And then followed a plea for helpless children that left us all in tears. "I think," he added on the spur of the moment, "we will take up a collection for the children. We don't usually do this but I guess we will make an exception this time," There were only two collections a year taken up in Plymouth church, and then only for a charitable purpose. But Beecher reserved the right to take one up whenever a great calamity like the Brooklyn Theatre fire or anything else warranted. On this morning he announced is a few words of thanks that the collection netted about ten thousand dollars. His was the most persuasive



were attached to each side of the pews down the aisles so that when all were seated it was a matter of extreme difficulty to force a passage out. Few cared to leave in the middle of a sermon but it was almost a daily occurrence for women to become faint. Disturbance from this cause was so common in Plymouth church as to excite but little comment. Beyond the momentary commotion no one appeared to notice it.

a daily occurrence for whiteh to become in Plymouth church as to excite but little comment. Beyond the momentary commotion no one appeared to notice it.

The later pictures of Beecher are the best and no man in this country was so widely known. He was a favorite subject for the cartoonist as well as the photographer. I have seen the well known features in every conceivable place. In the homes of the rich and of the poor. In the camp of the miner and the rude hut of the frontiersman. In the coal mines of Pennsylvania and the logging camps of the Northwest. Everywhere the people seemed to know and love the kindly face with its heavy head of whitened hair and its laughing blue eyes. Beecher was a man of enormous physical strength and wore a cape coat that added to his massiveness. He invariably wore a soft slouch hat with a very wide brim and his large fine face made him a remarkable figure anywhere. I have seen him pass through the cabin of the ferry-boats that ply between New York and Brooklyn and take his stand on the outer deck with the wind and snow beating down upon him till he appeared a veritable Chris Cringle. The illustrations used in his sermons were always drawn from common subjects and all of his similes were the result of his own personal observations. He engaged the deck hands, a speaking acquaintance with all the car conductors he ever met. Once or twice, in order to preach in Brooklyn and Peekskill the same Sunday where the regiment of which he was chaplain went for summer drill, he would be taken on a special train consisting of a locomotive only. He would chat with the engineer and fireman and they afterwards declared that he was the best possible passenger they could have wished. Beecher was essentially a man of the people. He imbibed his views from them and always went to the fountain head for them.

But to return to a Sunday morning in Plymouth church. The first words of the preacher were generally lost in the rustle and flutter of people "getting comfortable." When the words were repeated it

pet favorites the children the effect was simply irresistible.

When the great preacher faced the great throng every movement was stilled and that sea of faces became immovable. Then the sermon commenced. No pen can adequately describe the varying emotions produced at will by this remarkable man. Laughter followed tears and logic followed fancy in startling rapidity. But it was when he touched on some secular question that his power was greatest for Beecher at all times preached a practical sermon. On the morning that the Chinese Bill was passed prohibiting the landing of Chinese on our shores the scene in Plymouth church beggared description. Beecher was thoroughly aroused and anathematized the mea who had signed such a cowardly bill. His words roused his hearers to a feeling of intense excitement and at length a faint murmur of applause broke the quietness of the Sabbath morning. The next sentence provoked still louder demonstration and the preacher stopped. "Remember if you please that you are in the house of God and that I cannot permit any such display of feeling." But he had the people thoroughly aroused and the next sentence, "God will write down 'Ass' against the name of every man who signed the bill," created a perfect furore of applause and he was powerless to quell the tumult. Stormy scenes have frequently been witnessed in Plymouth church and no ne knew better than Beecher that when the audience got beyond control the best thing to do was to let them have their way.

It is doubtful if ever a successor to Henry Ward Beecher will appear. Men like him come centaries apart when they come at all. His matchless voice, his unfailing humor, his exquisite tenderness, all combined to make him a figure in the history of men. He suffered much from calumny and some think it would have been better for his fame had he died twenty years ago. Posterity however will right all these things and Henry Ward Beecher will be aecorded his true position.



BEECHER'S BROOKLYN HOME.

My DEAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

In the heading of our column this month, I behold myself in anticipation at the World's Fair. Seated comfortably on a balcony overlooking the magnificent array of buildings, the owls perched beside me. I seem to be writing a description of the scene for the next Comport, and the pile of letters beside me indicates that my voluminous correspondence will follow me wherever I may go.

But pleasant though this picture may be, a very different scene rises to my mind when I think of the World's Fair. In delightful anticipation I fancy myself at a Reunion of the cousins. We meet, we claspeach other's hands, we see the faces of those about whom we have formed many conjectures; and gathering into pleasant and congenial parties, we visit the great Exposition together. All our old friends will be there, Percy De Vere, Wisconsin Wild Bill, Kansas Sunflower, Sadie, D.G. B., Sunny Churchill, Pedagogue, Mocking Bird, Dixie, Kansas Red Bird, Star of the South, and scores of others; how we shall enjoy grasping each one by the hand? Uncle Josephus, too, we shall hope to see, and our kind Editor, as well as Oldcastle, Busy Bee, and the rest of the celebrities. Now cousins, it only remains for us to make this vision a reality, and it is not too carly to begin to make our plans. Let each niece or nephew who is really intending to go to the World's Fair, inform me as soon as possible; and also I would like the address of any cousins now living in Chicago; I have that of Mrs. Kupferle and one or two others. Then I will appoint committees to make all arrangements, and we will consult together about the best time for meeting. Of course we want to have a monster banquet to wind up the proceedings, with speeches, tracts, etc.; and a badge must be chosen which can be worn by all, so that we shall easily recognize one another. Let u: make our Reunion one of the biggest things of that big Exposition, and thus spread the fame of Comport and our beloved Chat Corner over all the world. Many have already signified t

Shut-In Medical Bureau this month.

"The members of the Comport Temperance Union are requested to send a letter to me on March 15, 1892, in which they will vote for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and also make any suggestions they may have to offer concerning the Union, the manner of conducting it, etc.

WM. J. TE SELLE, Box 330, Sheboygan Falls, Wisc."

I hope to see the Comport Temperance Union largely represented at our Reunion, and shall look for their badges, and those of the Essay Club. All these organizations should be more generally supported by the cousins. Meganesan tells me that he has been obliged to disband the History Club for lack of interest among the young people, something which I was very sorry to hear.

Dear Aunt Minerva and Cousins—Thinking you

lack of interest among the young people, something which I was very sorry to hear.

Dear Aunt Minerva and Cousins—Thinking you might be interested in the COMFORT "Shut-In" Society Medical Bureau, I resolved to make out a report of our work during 1891 and send it to COMFORT for publication. In this way our work may become known to many and increase. We elected our officers some time in July and since then have been doing our best to make a success of our work. We have but few members at present. Seven members. I do not consider them members until I have received their dues. Quite a few write me saying they would like to join, etc., but they never send their dues or write again. Will the cousins who write to me upon this subject please enclose a two-cent stamp for a reply? They would oblige me greatly would they do so.

REPORT FOR 1891.

July—Election of Officers. Members four. Am't in Treasury \$2.50

Dec—Seven members. Am't in Treasury \$5.00.
Now cousins let us endeavor to make a success of our work.

GRACE M. HOUGHTON, 135 Broadway.

Wakesha, Wis.

After these reports, why not hear some of the cousins

After these reports, why not hear some of the cousins tell about their homes, etc.? We learn so much about our beautiful country in that way. I am sure that I have found out more about the land I live in, since I began to have charge of this column than I could have by studying geography for fifty years, and in a much more interesting way; not by swallowing columns of dry facts, but from these bright, living letters.

letters.

"If space would permit I would like to describe our beautiful little town, and the enticing scenes around it; but will only say that its's a R. R. junction situated 20 miles west of Waco, in central Texas, out on the high, blackland prairie. In any direction from this place that the eye may look, the vision has nothing to check its admiring flight, save an occasional meandering brook, the immediate banks of which are only shaded with groves of green foliage, till it reaches the horizon far away. Over this vast, treen meadors which is detted with natches of beauties. sional meandering brook, the immediate banks of which are only shaded with groves of green foliage, till it reaches the horizon far away. Over this vast, green meadow, which is dotted with patches of beautiful wild flowers in spring, and sometimes nearly all winter, can now be seen the broad cotton fields, as white as the driven snow. In these fields the robust and the handsome young men go forth basking in the balmy breeze, gathering in or picking this snow-white fleece. Ah, too, my cousins, in these fields can be seen hundreds of damsels as beautiful and pure as Ruth ever was, gleaning for their parents or lords. Picking the soft, snowy fleece is considered one of the nicest and easiest outdoor exercises ever performed by the tender hand of the fair sex. The Boazes from the cities and towns go out across these meadows and choose their wives from the gleaners in the white harvest fields. The trouble in this beautiful, wide and free country is, that there are more seekers after these beautiful gleaners for wives, than there are gleaners to be found. It is perhaps not known by every one that the male sex is largely in the majority in this State. Many of the mothers who bless and brighten our Texas homes to-day, were chosen from the far off eastern, north and north-eastern States. Among the many other good subjects discussed in our chats with Aunt Minerva, I will suggest this very important one: The ties that bind the east, the west, the north and south together. I enjoy reading the cousins' letters, all of which are full of interesting and instructive reading. It is a pleasure for me to write, and if any of the cousins wish to know more about Texas or its inhabitants I will cheerfully give the information. Your cousin,

What a Paradise for old maids that State must be Some enterprising person ought to start a crusade of

What a Paradise for old maids that State must be! ome enterprising person ought to start a crusade of ingle women and lead them to Texas, for they are

certainly needed there. Man without the refining in-fluence of woman, misses half of life. Here is still another letter from that same Lone Star State.

Here is still another letter from that same Lone Star State.

"Texas is the most westerly of the Southern States, and extends farther south than any State in the Union, excepting Florida. Its coast is fringed by a series of long, narrow islands and peninsulas. The surface of Texas ascends gradually from the sea marshes of the Sabine and the sand dunes of the islands, to the plateau of the Llano Estacado, 4,500 feet above the sea. The climate is healthful, and though warm enough for the production of some tropical fruits, is less enervating than that of any of the other gulf States. Three valuable coal fields exist in Texas, and are worked more extensively each year; silver is also mined to a limited extent west of the Pecos river, and in Mason and, Llano counties, while limestone for building purposes and sand stone for grind stones, are quarried near the center of the State. Rock sait is found in the Red River valley, and salt mines exist in many localities.

The forest region of Texas covers a broad area, extending west from the Red and Sabine rivers, and tapering to a point at the Frio river. In the southeast of this region between Trinity and Sabine rivers, are immense and valuable forcests of southern pine with cypress and magnolia along the streams; to the northward and northwestward, the short leaf pine and white oak are the predominating trees; over the balance of the timbered region, black, post, red and black jack oak, hickory and some pine are found. The streams of the State are usually fringed with timber, syeamore, cedar, cottonwood, pecan, maple, hackberry and walnut, with magnolia and eypress in the south, while the mesquite is plentiful on the dry

lakes in the distance, revealing many objects not in view at any other time. We look on Mr. De Vere's proposition with favor, as to meeting at the World's Fair and giving a grand supper.

DELL AND BELL.

plea "more letters from the West"? To be sure we are from the West, we live in a beautiful valley in

"I am a Colo. ranchman and hunter. Some of the cousins may not know what a ranchman is. Just a little longer name for a farmer. The Colo. people say that the reason they changed the name, was because it rained for a farmer, and they had to make it rain by irrigating. This is the land of sunshine; in 1889 there were 354 days that the sun shone. I agree with Primrose about the society in this country, for a good many of the young men drink and gamble. There are 3 open saloons in Delta; that is a temptation for young men. I do not drink or gamble; my motto is shun bad company. Correspondents solicited.

WILLIAM A. HOLLCRAFT, Delta, Delta, Delta Co., Colo."

Delta, Delta Co., Colo."

"I live in Burlington, Ia., a city which is built on sur hills. East of the city is the Mississippi river, he river is very low now and the large boats have to e careful so they won't run aground. In the spring her river gets very high and floods all the low lands, here are a good many hunting and fishing grounds in the east side of the river. The scenery is very eautiful and picturesque when you are over there had look across at the city. We have a good many laces to spend our afternoons in the summer. We ave the Black Hawk Springs, Indian Springs, Casdes and Starr's Cave, which has never been exored to the end. Your nephew.

"We live near the line of Tuskalossa Co. in the

"We live near the line of Tuskaloosa Co., in the north of Hale Co., Ala. All around us, the people make fine crops of cotton, corn, oats, potatoes, pea-nuts, melons, hay of a variety of grasses, and millet.

the business, and the many are carcless in looking for the pearls after the shells are opened, and nino out of ten get tired looking and so give it up. There are different ways of fishing for the shells; the better way however is to go in a boat upon the water and with rakes, having upon their backs a basket-shaped wire attachment, rake the shells out of the mud (for they bury themselves in the mud.) As the shells are gathered they are dropped into the boat. Sometimes they are opened there, and after being searched for pearls, are again given back to the river's embrace. Sometimes they are opened there, and after being searched for pearls, are again given back to the river's embrace. Sometimes they are taken on shore and opened, and upon the shore many bushels of shells are strewn. After a time people along the Pecatonica river began to fish for pearls there and it has proven quite as rich in pearls as has Sugar river. I saw on the last hamed river's bank another contrivance for gathering shells. It was made to be drawn by horses. It was a circle of wood, larger than a wagon wheel, and another piece was fastened at a proper distance inside of the larger circle. Then cultivator teeth were fastened to the lower side and half way around it, 13 to 16 in number, and wires were woven in a net-work between the cultivator teeth, and fastened securely to the circle and half circle above. A tongue was added and a team attached and driven into the river where it was shallow, and the shells raked on shore. Others wade in and reach down after the shells. Some boys go is the river barefoot and pick up shells with their toes. I heard one man say that he saw 76 boys and girls in the river doe man say that he saw 76 boys and girls in the river doe man say that he saw 76 boys and girls in the river doe man say that he saw 76 boys and girls in the river doe man say that he saw 76 boys and girls in the river at once, each carrying a sack into which they dropped the shells as fast as gathered. The manner of hunting for the pearls i a beautiful valley in southwestern Kansas 6 miles south of the Arkansas river. The principal staples here are wheat, ryc, oats and barley, and most all kinds of the large orchards and gardens are irrigated by the great Eureka Canal, It is a pieturesque scene Eureka Canal. It is a pieturesque scene to see the prairie here in the springtime; it looks like a beautiful green carpet dotted here and there with lovely flowers and grazing herds of cattle. Almost every kind of flowers that grow in the East grow wild here, but of course not so pretty as the tame grow wild here, but of course not so pretty as the tame ones. We wonder how many of the cousins have seen a prairie fire. They are fascinating but dangerous Lo! when one awakes in the morning and sees before him the mirage which appears like great lakes in the distance, revealing many objects not in view at

Now for a social chat about "a little of everything and not much of anything."

and not much of anything."

"I have been a sub. to COMFORT nearly two years, and mean to take it next year. I enjoy the whole paper, but your column the best of all. I felt like clapping my hands when I read the essay on novel reading by Luna May; she said just what I was wishing to say, but could not find words to express my thoughts. I always feel sorry for those who write asking help, but as I am poor myself, I cannot help them, but they all have my sympathy. An old aunt of mine used to say that "sorrow without help was like pudding without sail," and I suppose that according to that, my sympathy will not go down well. To make the hair smooth and glossy, wash in elder-blow tea once a week and comb at least three times a day. This will also keep the hair from turning gray.

I don't know about that. Aunt Mary; it seems to

AUNT MARY,"

I don't know about that, Aunt Mary; it seems to
me that sympathy is often acceptable, though unaccompanied by any material aid. For myself, if I were
poor and suffering, I would rather have the sympathy
of a kind heart who had nothing else to give, than the
richest gift flung to me in so-called "charity" by
some unfeeling person.

"I live in the country, about 7 miles from the thriv-

of a kind heart who had nothing else to give, than the richest gift flung to me in so-called "charity" by some unfeeling person.

"I live in the country, about 7 miles from the thriving town of Punksutawney. It has a population of over 3,000 inhabitants, located in one of the best coal mining districts in the State, and is surrounded by 3 mining towns, from which coal is shipped daily in large quantities to all parts. It has 2 railroads, and glass works and others. The town is also well supplied with water and natural gas, both conducted by pipe lines; it also has an electric light plant by which the town is beautifully lit up at night. After reading many of the cousins' letters, I learn that a good number of them are engaged as Christian workers, which certainly is encouraging. "Tis very true that there are not enough engaged in the good work of serving the dear Master. I for my part can say that I am an unworthy Sabbath-school superintendent, I need the prayers and sympathy of you all. We have a good Sabbath-school with some very good workers. I hope and trust that all the dear Comfort readers are laboring for some good cause.

Your unworthy nephew, G. W. Carry, "I see by my July No. of Comport that 2 or 3 of the cousins have a great deal to say on the subject of novel reading. I have read a great many novels and I am not ashamed to own up to it. Many a night after working hard all day, I have sat down and enjoyed reading works of fection. Aunt Minerva, which would you rather see a boy do, (who lives in a town or city) go down town and stay until 1 or 12 o'clock among a crowd of bad boys that are almost always found on the streets, or listening to the vulgar language of some wicked and sinful man; or to see him sit down at home with parents, sisters and brothers around him and read a novel like 'Moss Side' by Marion Harland, 'Scrouge and Marley' by Charles Dickens, or 'Viola' by Emerson Brunett? I am quite sure you would rather see him do the latter. I quite agree with Mocking Bird when she says that she does

Quite right, my nephew! A boy who likes to stay at home and read good, pure stories, will not be often found on the street-corners. It is the books which he is ashamed to read in the company of his parents and sisters, the low novels and story papers which he sneaks away into his own room, which lead him on to destruction. This subject seems to be one on which there is a laways something more to say. Here is a niece with a few words also.

there is always something more to say. Here is a niece with a few words also.

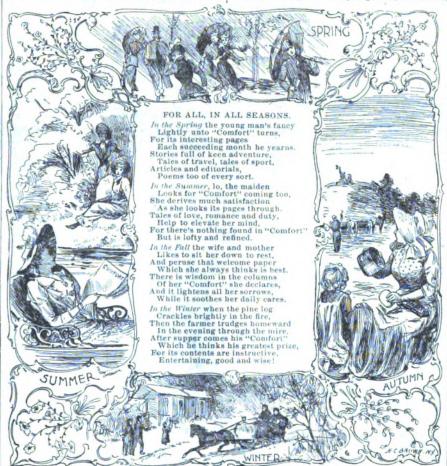
"I never read a good novel in my life but what it showed some fault of a person and caused me to see it and quit. I never read one without it making me feel as if I ought to be better. I think we ought to compromise the question by agreeing, that novel reading is bad when the books are bad, and it does good when good books are read. I believe Dickens' books have done half the reforming of English prisons, etc., by his portraying the evil of them.

Now girls, that are raking the boys so. Don't you believe the girls are somewhat responsible for their drinking, using tobacco, etc.? If the ladies would not accept a gentleman's company who had such habits, some of them would quit. As long as girls are silly, boys will be bad (as they call it.) What boy would resist the temptation of firting with a girl, when she tempts him? I think girls ought to be the bright, pure guardians to lead them aright. Auntie, don't you think a man will always respect a true lady! Lots of times a man would not do things if he knew they were unpleasant to a lady. I think profane language ranks with whiskey and tobacco. Don't imagine I am in love, for I'm not, only I have lots of true, noble friends, and I like to see the good side 'Evil to him that evil thinketh.' If ever I marry, expect to go to my husband pure, and unsullied by flirting with Tom, Dick and Harry. MAY QUEEN."

Yes, a true gentleman will always respect a lady. thoroughly agree with you in your opinion concern

Yes, a true gentleman will always respect a lady, thoroughly agree with you in your opinion concerning the influence of girls over the young men. Girl who "just love the smell of a good cigar," and "don like a fellow to be 100 good," are the ones who lead men to ruin. And there are far too many such girl in the world to-day.

"I have been much interested in the letters of or department, especially those describing the wor



plains, and the white cedar, juniper and mountain prairies of southern and grasses, the sedge grass in the growth of natural grasses, the sedge grass in the west, which afford nutritious pasturage over nine months in the year to the immense herds of cattle and sheep for which Texas is noted. The railroad system of the State embraces over 6,000 miles of track and is being rapidly extended to meet the demands of trade. The capitol at Austin, is a building of which Texans are justly proud. It is built of granite, is 560 feet long, and 28 feet broad; the dome rises majestically to a height of 311 feet. It is not only second in size to the capitol at Washington, but is the seventh largest building in the world. The capitol is heated by steam lighted by electricity, and provided with every modern convenience.

electricity, and provided with every modern convenience.

SWETTBRIAR."

"I am a school teacher and live on a beautiful prairie in southern Wisconsin. This romantic spot is called Big Foot, on account of having been the rendezvous of an Indian chief bearing that name. The prairie is skirted on the northeast by the Woods and hills of Lake Geneva, at whose head Big Foot is said to have been buried, or rather suspended among the treetops. A beautiful park now occupies the place, and the children of the campers whoop and hallo throughout the woods, little thinking of their strange predecessors of half a century ago, whose wild whoop would put their puny cry in insignificance. Within a few years Lake Geneva has become a popular summer resort, being well known throughout the West. I drive 4 miles across the prairie to my school, where I am greeted by the ruddy faces of 40 children; and who could wish for a more forcible inspiration to work? For the purpose of gaining and giving information, I should be much pleased to correspond with some of the Southern cousins.

Ames Pierce, Big Foot, Ill."

Dear Aunty and Cousins:—May we enter your

you can raise analysis, plums—black and new grow wild in great quantities. Fruit is scarce are on account of the late frost last spring. A dant—peaches, pears, apples. I berries grow wild in great qua-this year on account of the lat-delightful resort for invalids

berries grow wild in great quantities. Fruit is scarce to a flord year to which the year on account of the late frost last spring. A delightful resort for invalids in winter. I hope if year to which there is anyone who sees this who lives in those pinching cold climates, so subject to 'cold waves' or blizzards,' and wants to come South to farm they will ind a way to do so through this letter. Ora Jones, would like to bear from you, as I would like a so correspondent from your town. Frank Beverly, come again. I would like Wisconsin Wild Bill to tell why inding in hied by onner.

If the cousins will drop me a card I will explain how I have passed the winter pleasantly and profitably, auntiful ic spot ten the name.

Woods Froot is among to me, so as some fail to send stamps for Foot is among to me, so as some fail to send stamps for eight yet ask questions enough to occupy my pen for half a day in answering them, I take this method of the ters coming to me, so as some fail to send stamps for eight yet ask questions enough to occupy my pen for half a day in answering them, I take this method of the tier of the part of the parts were not there and are the correlation of the parts were not there and are the restill, but because few have leisure to devote to

done by the C. E. I hope we will have others in the near future, telling of the good work in other places. If any of the readers of COMPORT have read 'Chrissy's Dream' by Pansy, I would like for them to tell me through the COMPORT how they liked it. I would advise all the young folks to read Pansy's books. You will find them as interesting as Dickens' works, and far more helpful, at least they were to me. I would like to see some account of the Chautauqua summer gatherings. I don't belong to any of the classes, but there are surely some of the readers that do, and I would like to hear something about them. We country people, if we are too busy to attend such places, can enjoy reading of the work that others are doing. It makes small duties seem less irksome to have something grand to meditate upon. Many thanks to you Auntie for good suggestions. I think the Comport improves with every No. I have one request, if any of the cousins were born Aug. 23, 1859, I would like to correspond with them, as that is my age.

Annie Hoffarth, Alice, Texas Co., Mo."

I, for one, have read "Chrissy's Endeavor," and enjoyed it; but I liked even better the sequel, "Her Associate Members."

joyed it; but I liked even better the sequel, "Her Associate Members."

"Every time I read the cousins' letters, I almost feel as if I knew you and would like to call you each by name and extend greetings. Maria Johnson, I admire your spirit, and you have the full measure of my sympathy. Southern Girl, I admire your letters very much. Write often. One so gifted as yourself cannot be hid under a bushel. As to my idea of who is happiest, I would say, 'He who trusts God most fully, and trusting, follows Him to crucifixion if need be.' I cannot agree with you, Moon of Leaves, in regard to the Indian question. I was born on the border of the Indian Territory, and had an Indian squaw for a nurse, and Indian pappooses for comrades. From my wild prairie home I was transplanted to the narrower limits of this State. That was years ago, yet in my heart I pine for my wild, western free life and the comrades of my youth. And suppose the women at Wounded Knee did fight, was it not for their rights? Did not they once possess the whole land of America, and had to give land after land to encroaching whites? And now begrudged the small space allotted them by the generous (?) whites! Had you, Moon of Leaves, been raised by and among the same noble red men you revile, you would have seen the many noble traits of a now almost extinct people. Would like to correspond with Moon of Leaves and Southern cirl, who will find my address with Aunt Minerva. I also am a member of the Essay Club.

APACHE."

The following letter treats of a subject to which I have given much thought, and the writer's views coincide with my own. I would like to hear from others in the same line.

"Our chat's grow pleasanter as the months roll around. The discussions are very interesting. I

women as lawyers, Adam's Wife; but blessed be the women doctors!

"I am a farmer's boy residing on the edge of the great Lake Kenka Grape region. Lake Kenka is a magnificent body of water 22 miles in length and varying from 1-2 to 1 mile in width, the shores of which are thickly dotted with cottages and tents of sojourners from all over the country. It is the most frequented summer resort in this part of the country. Hammondsport is at the head of the lake with one standard guage railway and Penn Yan at the foot has 2 railways, therefore Lake Kenka is easily accessible from all quarters. At the head of the lake lies Pleasant Valley, nearly all of which is now devoted to grape culture. In the valley and along the lake are situated numerous wine-cellars in which are employed many people, and of course such an industry does much good in a certain way. But the evil arising from wine drinking far counteracts it. The Koransays, "There is a devil in every berry of the grape,' so we must admit that wine is but a higher development of the species. Of I had the power to blot the liquor curse from the acc of the earth, how gladly would I strike the blow! But it is far beyond my power.

Your nephew, D. LITTLE, "I ammondsport, Steuben Co., N. Y."
"I do not know if I will be welcome, for I am no longer young. I will have to come as uncle, if at all.

Your nephew, D. LITTLE, "Hammondsport, Steuben Co., N. Y."

"I do not know if I will be welcome, for I am no longer young. I will have to come as uncle, if at all. I want to tell you how I became acquainted with many of you and your whereabouts. Months ago a sample copy of your paper came to my address, I glanced it over and put it by, then another came, and by this time I got thoroughly interested, and truly I takes so much comfort in reading it, that I shall subscribe for it without delay. I feel a deep interest for the young people, and their letters have a peculiar charm for me, coming as they do from all parts of the Union and if you will give me a place in your hand, I will try and if you will give me a place in your hand, I will try and interest you. I observe that many of the dear cousins profess openly to love and serve the Lord Christ. This fact brings them close to my heart, for I am trying hard to be one of God's children. I live apart from the world, am consecrated wholly to His service. Did you ever hear of the Shakers? Well, I profess to be one of that sect. We have many young people of both sexes living with us, and they love this pure, holy way of living, and I think they are much oetter off than they would otherwise be. If any of the

ON EMPLOYED \$

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dear cousins wish for other information than what I write, they can obtain my address from Aunt Minerva, and I will gladly, freely give as I have received. I want to express my loving sympathy for the poor 'Shut-Ins.' I often feel to thank our Father in Heaven that I am able to work with my hands. It is sweet comfort to work in His service and for our fellowman. I can do much where I am for my people. Were I differently situated I think it would be my first work to care for the sick and the poor invalid 'Shut In.' I find the two words in the Bible in connection with the people who went into the ark. 'And the Lord shut him in,' Gen. 7-16. God has perhaps shut some of these dear cousins in for some good purpose. I want them to feel that His ways are always right. And love is o'er them all, though far above their sight, for their special comfort please read Deut. 33—27. With kindest wishes for all I am your loving friend,

Thank you for your kind words. I will use the money you sent as best I can, for the purpose you intended.

"I would like to tell the cousins how I spent Christ-

Thank you for your kind words. I will use the money you sent as best I can, for the purpose you intended.

"I would like to tell the cousins how I spent Christmas, our Saviour's birthday. We all (this includes my self, 2 sisters, father, mother and 20 more or less aunts, uncles and cousins) assembled at grandma's and grandpa's at about 10 o'clock A.M. The aunties worked industriously at the dinner, and the savor of roast goose and mince pie reached us cousins in the big chamber which rang with shouts of boisterous mirth as we played games too numerous for mention, old and young engaging in them with right royal heartiness. The younger ones screamed with laughter to see their graver uncles whirling round like mad in 'coach' or diving wildly about in 'blindman's buff.' At the heighth of the merriment, dinner was announced, and falling gravely into couples we marched into the dining-room, and did full justice to all the catables. The afternoon went off much as the forenoon had done. At last, as the lamps were lighted, we all settled around the snapping wood fire and told preposterous stories, while one cousin, whom experience had taught us to keep employed, industriously popped corn and dispensed apples. Suddenly the door opened and papa and an uncle entered saying, 'Bundle up here, big and little, and hurrah! for a sleigh ride.' We older ones helped the little ones, and soon all stood on the steps pilling into the big sleigh. The robes and blankets finally being carefully adjusted, papa chirruped to the horses; they sprang forward, and one promising cousin, who had insisted on sitting on the end-board, made a glittering grand somersault, bringing up in the soft snow. Papa pulled up the horses, uncle had him in the sleigh again in a twinkling, and off we dashed. The sky was like a deep vault studded with millions of twinkling stars that looked hard and cold. Over the group? Every one was still. The bells rang out painfully sharp; but one evil cousin, who would not be impressed if Gabriel should have blown at the i

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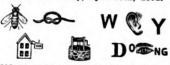
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HOBB'S MEDICINE CO., Cor. Dearborn and Harrison Streets, Chicago, III. 23 When our readers answer the above advertise ment please mention Comfort.

Whew! how the wind blows. I fear we shall not have much of a session to-day, Queen Bee, for no one will have courage to venture out in such a gale. I am sorry, for I wanted to tell them—but here they come now! Run quickly, Cousin Drone, and unfasten the hive door. (I keep it bolted because it blows open so.) Come in, come in, every one! You have some rosy cheeks, sister Bees: it must be that Jack Frost is abroad in this March wind. Just take off your wraps, and gather around the open fire, while I get another stick of wood to start up the blaze. I am glad to see so many of you were not afraid of the blustering weather.

But we must not waste our precious time. Who speaks first? Nellie, you have the floor. "Let me tell you how to make a pretty

"Let me tell you how to make a pretty

"Let me tell you how to make a pretty

SHELF LAMBREQUIN.

If you have a rough, uncouth shelf in your kitchen, first cover the top with some dark smooth cloth. Then take a stripe of dark but bright Canton flannel about 8 inches wide (more or less according to width and length of shelf) and long enough to reach across the front and ends of the shelf. Baste a pretty contrasting stripe of cretonne through the center, and stitch it on with the machine. Hem the lower edge and finish with as pretty a worsted fringe as you can afford. Tack it to your shelf with brass headed tacks and you have a convenient receptacle for lamps, books or vases of flowers.

"Did you know that two pine cones, one bronzed in gold and the other in copper color, and tied with a bow of ribbon, make a beautiful ornament? And another thing I want to mention, coffee grounds make a good filling for a pin-cushion. Put them in a bag and hang behind the stove till dry. They do not rust the meedles."

"I want to tell the sisters," says Mollie

needles."
"I want to tell the sisters," says Mollie Murphy, "that Mrs. Hooper is not the only housekeeper that uses napkins made of flour sacks. We use them and think them a great deal better than none at all. We also make summer undershirts for the boys, and one of our neighbors makes drawers for her little girl of them. They also make very good linings. For a

For a

NEWSPAPER RACK
gild a stick of wood and hang with a pretty cord or ribbon tied in a bow at each end. Hang your papers over it. Twenty-four inches long your papers over it. Twenty-four inches long and one inch square is a good size for the stick. To make a pretty

BANNER
for the children's room, get a yard of Turkey red calico, make a half inch hem on each side and a wider one at top and bottom. Cut out bright pictures from advertisement cards and paste on the calico. Runa rod through the hem at top and bottom and hang with a ribbon or cord. I make cord and tassel of red carpet warpings."

M. A. Martin of Greenville, R. I. is a started to the calical transfer of the care to the care to the calical transfer of the care to t

M. A. Martin of Greenville, R. I., is going to tell us how to make a

Cut out of stiff white material 41 pieces. Cover them with serpentine braid, beginning on the outer edge and sewing each point down until near the center. Make a tutt of yellow worsted and fasten in the centre of each. Make four squares of nine each, catching lightly one or two points of each daisy. Make a cross of two pieces of red ribbon, each piece two inches wide and three inches long. Hem the ends to a point. Fasten a daisy on each point of ribbon and one in the center. Now fasten one of the squares of nine daisies in each of the corners, which will make the tidy nearly square, though each point of ribbon should extend out a little further than the daisies. This makes a lovely tidy. And something pretty for your wall is a

wall is a

SICKLE.

Take a piece of pasteboard and cut the shape of a sickle, then wrap silver tinsel all around, beginning at the point and ending at the handle. The latter must be covered with plush.



"ROMAN STRIPE" NEAPOLITAN CAP.

The colors of yarn may be varied to please the taste, but a very good model was knitted of light blue, dark (navy) blue, yellow and scarlet, about one ounce of each.

Begin at the band with casting on 200 stitches, with red yarn, using rather fine needles. It is difficult to give the exact size as some work much more loosely or tightly than other knitters. The colored stripes are knitted back and forth in the following proportion: 50 rows of red, *20 of navy-blue, 2 of yellow, 2 of navy-blue, 1 of red, 2 of yellow, 2 of light-blue, 2 of navy-blue, 4 light-blue, 2 yellow, 2 light-blue, 2 navy-blue, 6 yellow, 6 ravy-blue, 2 red, 2 navy-blue, 6 yellow, 6 navy-blue, 2 red, 2 navy-blue, 6 pyellow, 2 red, 2 navy-blue, 6 red, 2 navy-blue, 2 yellow, 30 navy-blue, 6 repeat from *.

This should complete a piece 12 and 3-4 inches

deep, and 14 and 1-4 inches wide. Cast off loosely, sew the side edges together, matching the stripes as perfectly as possible, gather the upper or cast-off edge twice, the second run being made 3-4 of an inch from the edge, and finish with a pompon or tassel.

finish with a pompon or tassel.

"Easter is coming before long," exclaims Teddie DeBoos from her corner, "and here is a very pretty and inexpensive way to color Easter eggs for the little folks. Wet the outside onion skins in cold water and cover the eggs with them. Wrap them in cotton batting. Now an old piece of calico over the whole, and tie firmly with strong thread. Now dip the whole in cold water again and lay in hot ashes to roast, which will require about half an hour or so. Please try a few and you will be surprised at the effect."

Here is a new-comer, Mrs. M. E. M. of Texas, and she has ever so many new and pretty things to tell us about. Please take a front seat and "speak up loud."

seat and "speak up loud."

A PAPER WEIGHT

and thermometer stand combined. Procure a
toy flatiron of large size, cut a piece of plush
enough larger than the base to allow of its being glued up neatly around the edge, gild the
top and handle, around which tie a ribbon
matching the plush in color, fasten a tiny thermometer at a careless angle upon the plush
covered bottom. A pretty

HOLDER FOR BURNT MATCHES
is made thus: Take a tin box and cover with
blue plush, then fasten on fine gilt cord in the
shape of a coarse spider's web that will reach
nearly across the plush. On the upper corners
put bows of pale pink ribbon. It should be
placed on an easel, or if preferred a loop may
be fastened at the back for hanging. A pretty
and novel

and novel

PINCUSHION.

may be made of six squares of brocade, plush or any handsome material. Fold each square cornerways to make a triangle, and sew each triangle up separately and fill with bran. Now join all together along one of the short sides so that the other short side forms the part they stand on and the long sides slope gradually away from the top. Put a bow of ribbon at the top where the triangles meet, and a silk ball at the other end of each part. This forms a star raised in the center.

A convenient little article is a

A convenient little article is a

THREAD AND NEEDLE CASE
intended to be hung on the wall. The foundation of the case is made of two strips of satinibon four inches wide and eighteen inches long. Seam these together and edge all around with a git cord. Make three pockets of the ribbon, five inches deep, and fasten them to the foundation. Sew a knotted fringe of silk to the bottom and finish with bows of ribbon at the upper corners, leaving a loop to hang by.

AN ODD PINCUSHION

the upper corners, leaving a loop to hang by.

AN ODD PINCUSHION

is made from a short-handled wooden spoon.

Paint the spoon white with gilt lines, and

finish with a delicate spray of forget-me-nots

on the handle. Glue a cushion of pale blue

plush into the bowl of the spoon, finishing with

a full ruching of narrow blue ribbon. A bow

of ribbon is also tied on the handle for hang
ing. A small silk handerchief makes a pretty

of ribbon is also tied on the handle for hanging. A small silk handerchief makes a pretty

CARD BAG.

Gather it with narrow ribbons, leaving quite a frill at the top to fall over, and finish with a row of small silk tassels on the lower edge. A large silk handkerchief makes a pretty work bag. Gather it so that the four corners will be left to fall over, edge with a frill of lace if desired. It may be spread out perfectly flat upon the lap when one is at work.

Now if the Bees will allow me, I would like to tell them of some lovely pillows which I saw last month at a sale. There were all kinds and varieties, from the straw porch pillow to the daintiest of eider down puff. The porch and hammock pillows, whose use every one who lives out-of-door at all in the summer will appreciate, were filled with straw or cheap curled hair; some had coverings of blue denim, worked with a few groups of large rings or other simple design, others of brown linen similarly decorated; a large one of striped awning cloth had a durable as well as a cheerful appearance. They were of varied shapes, large and small, square and oblong, but nearly all had a loop on one corner for convenience in handling. (Just run upstairs and fasten that shutter that I hear banging, will you, Cousin Drone? the wind has blown it loose.)

A beautiful baby pillow was of pale blue silk, in oblong shape. Around it, covering to within two inches or so of the ends, was a strip of fine white linen, embroidered in blue forgetme-nots; and this strip was laced over the ends of the pillow with narrow blue ribbons. It was an exquisite thing, and was very quickly sold to a proud young mother.

The regular sofa-pillows, of which Fashion now demands that we shall have a score, more

to a proud young mother.

The regular sofa-pillows, of which Fashion now demands that we shall have a score, more or less, were mostly of the beautiful figured China silks, and varied in size from 12 in. square to 20 in. A very large one of pale green silk had a ruffle 3 inches wide all around it, made double. Another of dull blue and pink brocaded satin was edged by a puff about 3 in. wide; in sewing this on, one edge was pulled before the other, so as to produce a pretty twisted effect. A pillow covered with yellow figured silk, had a pale pink puff. Two small ones were of white silk figured with most natural sprays of clover, a "four-leaf" showing now and then for luck.

The most durable and serviceable pillow of

ink is very objectionable, and the paper quickly becomes flattened down into a hard mass. What, all starting to go? Well, it does look like a "squall," so I will not urge you to stay. Let's have a full attendance next time. Good-bee!

Address all letters for this department to Busy Bee, care of Comfort Pub. Co. Contributions solicited. I cannot answer letters privately, or give addresses, under any circumstances.

Employment and Money for the Industrious.

Dear Readers:—This is a free country, poor men get rich and rich men fail, crops are good and money is plenty if you only know how to get it. I made \$19 last week plating watches and tableware. This week I will do better and sell two platers besides with \$10 profit. My wife is doing nearly as much. H.F.Delno & Co., of Columbus, Ohio, furnish a fine outfit for \$5; circulars free. I wish every industrious person had one.

A READER.

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Cousin Hebe's Reflections.



"A lie," says an old proverb, "travels so fast that it can mever be overtaken." The following is a case in point:

A certain physician in New England had acquired an unenviable reputation for making his bills as large as possible. "Why," said one man to another, speaking of the doctor, "he brought my daughter up from her attack of pneumonia when two other physicians said that there was no hope for her; but when she was quite well again, he charged me for three calls he made to inquire in a friendly way how she was getting on." "That seems a little forced," admitted the other man; "but it's nothing to an experience I had with him at the seashore. We happened to be in bathing at the same time one day, and I swam up to him and inquired for his wife. 'She is very well,' said the doctor. 'And your daughters?" I asked. "They're perfectly well, both of them,' replied he, rather shortly, I thought. So I said: 'I'm delighted to hear it; remember me to them,' and swam away. And what do you think I received from him a week or two later? An itemized bill—one item: To consultation at sea, five dollars." Although no one has ever seen that bill, the story clings to the doctor's name to this day, after the lapse of many years.

The eccentricities of some people frequently merit and received thorough punishment.

The eccentricities of some people frequently merit and seceive thorough punishment. In a Maine town, near the ea-coast, was one of many communities where the men ere, so to speak, a cross tween farmers and sailors of where, as a natural conand where, as a natural con-equence, the cultivation of he soil was somewhat neg-ected. The minister of a neighboring town ex-changed with the minister of this community and as

this community, and, as irought was upon them, NO RAIN WANTED. 2 people sent him a reset that he would pray for rain. This he did, as lows: "O Lord, thy servant is asked by this people pray for rain, and he does so. But thou knowest, Lord, that what this soil needs is dressin."



follows: "O Lord, thy servant is asked by this people to pray for rain, and he does so. But thou knowest, O Lord, that what this soil needs is dressin."

Gen. Nat Forrest, who commanded the Confederates when Fort Pillow was captured, and was responsible for the massacre, was a good fighter, and shrewd, but very illiterate. His report of the capture of Fort Pillow contained this account of his success: "We busted the fort at ninerclock and scatered the niggers. The men is still a cillanem in the woods." "Ninerclock" is understood easily, but an educated man might have some difficulty in translating "cillanem" into "killing them;" but that is what the mysterious word means. Less famous than Gen. Forrest, but quite as sententious, was Gen. Patrick Connor, who commanded in Utah during the war. In February, 1863, his force encamped near Salt Lake City, after a long and hard campaign against the Mormon Church, promptly sent a Bishop to him to say that the Government had exempted a township (thirty-six square miles) from occupation by any Federal troops, that his presence was not desired by the Governor, and that we're tired. We find good campin ground here—well dhrained an wathered, an' we're comfortable where we are, an' we don't want to retire onless we have to. An' tell Mr. Young thet if we do retire 'twill be to the front—down into Salt Lake City, wid our gun in the main sthreets an' my headquarterers in the President's house. That's all, Bishop." And Fort Donglas stands where Gen. Connor placed it.



PATRICK DRIVING THE SNAKES FROM IRELAND

One of the reminders of St. Patrick's Day is the gend of all the snakes being driven from Irish soil the holy St. Patrick and it is even believed by any to-day that snakes cannot thrive there, alough it is said an Englishman named Drummond rried some there and they lived and grew in spite priestly dictation.



THE CELEBRATION OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

CATARRH CURED.

A clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Prof. J. A. Lawrence, 87 Warren Street, New York, will receive the recipe free of charge.

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plates solid 14k Gold. This watch is fully warranted to years. In carrying this watch you have the credit of owning a solid gold watch and for use is just as desirable, State which wanted Ladies or Gents size also your post and express office. If you send full amount (\$6.00) with order we will send by reg. mail and include a gold-plated chain which would cost you nearly the price of watch. chain which would cost you nearly the price of watch KIRTLAND BROS. & CO., 62 Fulton St., N. K.



Fighting the Flames During Raging Forest Fire.

Although many wonderful escapes have been experienced by people living on the prairies or been vast forests, yet there are new wonders being so folded and hardships experienced nearly every day. Just at this time the greatest and most university and the series of the series and thousands, and scorching and buriers from the series of the



I TOOK THEM TO OUR CAVE

experienced by people who have had to undergo any hardships whatever, or who have been run down from any cause. We print here a genuine letter lately received, showing what Oxien has done during the raging of a fire.

the raging of a fire.

Gentlemen: You should advertise your Oxiento the use of firemen and those in danger of asphytion. I would like to tell you what it did for me a the 23d of last Sept, we were swept by the most testle ble forest fire that I ever saw or heard of. The wind blew a terrific gale straight from a large pine slasting, and brought the heat and smoke directly upons. It was so fearfully hot and the smoke from the pine tops was so dense and stifling that after fighting it away from our buildings for a couple of hours my wife and I were nearly exhausted and unable to



WE FOUGHT THE FIRE TWO DAYS.

stand, and we gave up all hope of saving anything and so took our little ones (one of whom was sick in bed at the time) to an outdoor cellar or cave I chanced to think of the Oxien, some of which I had in my pocket at the time, and we all took one for we were unable to breathe except by gasps. At once we felt better and waltzed back into the fire, and by taking liberally of Oxien for four days and nights worked like steam engines, without even time to eat except a drink of milk or piece of bread and butter. Oxien was worth a great many dollars to us, for several inhaled so much smoke and heat at the time, that they did not get over it for a month and were laid up, but Oxien seemed to invigorate the lungs and heart to such perfect action that the smoke did not have much impression on them. And the little ones did not seem to feel their long stay in the damp cave I expected they would be sick, but they did not catch a particle of cold. Yours respectfully,

G. D. Farmer, Ironwood, Barron Co., Wisc.

Oxien is truly the most wonderful food ever produced; it will prevent or relieve all manner of diseases, to prove it The Giant Oxie Co. will send free samples and further particulars to all who write to them at Augusta, Maine. The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are also having a great pull. Our agents are making fortunes. Write for terms.



WE ARE NOW ALL WELL AND HAPPY.



MY DEAR YOUNG FOLKS:

How many of you have been out in this March wind and got a freekle on your nose? All who have, say "Aye!" Oh, what a chorus! it almost deafened me. Now all stand up in a row, and I will put a little lemon-juice on every freekled nose. How many dozen lemons do you suppose it would take to do that? About as many as will be needed to make lemonade for the cousins' reunion at the World's Fair. How many of my young folks are going to be there? It will be for young and old, and I hope I shall see lots of merry faces of the boys and girls among the older and more sedate cousins.

Here I have such a nice letter from a wee little maiden, written all by herself.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little girl 7 years old. We live in a little town called Sheyenne. It is a very small place. Papa owns a lot of the land around here. He keeps store and an elevator, and also farms. I have a pony and saddle. My pony is cream-colored, with a dark mane and tail.

Flow Richtreft, Sheyenne, No. Dak.

I suppose your papa is very proud of his little.

whether they ever ride on his back or not.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I thought probably you would like to hear from a little girl 11 -years old. I am fond of reading. I have been to school quite a while now, but my school closed yesterday; my teacher gave us all a bag of candy and an orange, her name is Bisic Rood; sle lives in Norfolk and so do I. I live with my grandma. I hope the cousins all had a merry Christmas, I am sure I did. I had 8 presents. I read Comport and like it very much. I have a cat, it weighs 15 1-2 pounds.

ROSIE M. DRINKWATER, Norfolk, Conn.

Oh what a big cat, Rosie! I think you must feed

Oh what a big cat, Rosie! I think you must feed him on oatmeal and milk, to make him so fat.

him on oatmeal and milk, to make him so fat.

"I live in the country near the central part of Tenaessee. I wish some of the poor 'Shut Ins' could enjoy the free country air and beautiful scenery that I do. I walk a mile to school, but it does not seem long at all, as it is a pleasant road all the way. I cross a creek which has a nice little foot bridge over it. We have a splendid school and nice schoolmates. I think Comport is a splendid paper. I forgot to tell you about our Literary and Debating Society. We have it every other Friday night, and I enjoy it very much and think the rest do. Will some of the consins please write to me? I would like to correspond with any of them. Your affectionate niece,

ELLA STUBBLEFIELD, Viola, Warren Co., Tenn."
"Here comes a little Texas Dutchman knocking for

pond with any of them. Your affectionate nices,

"Here comes a little Texas Dutchman knocking for
admittance in your valuable paper. I have read so
many letters from all parts of the United States, but
a very few from Texas. Texas is generally considered a wild State, but I don't think so; the people
are all friendly and neighborly to all. Well, there
are good and bad people in all other States. Cotton
and corn are the chief products of this State. I am
living all alone with my parents on a very pretty
for any development of Giddings. We have 600 acres of
good farming land and about 200 head of cattle, 9
arms 4 miles north of Giddings. We have 600 acres of
good farming land and about 200 head of cattle, 9
arms 4 miles north of Giddings. We have 800 acres of
good farming land and about 200 head of cattle, 9
acress and lots of fowls. You might think that I get
lonesome sometimes. I do, though I have plenty of
music. I have 4 different instruments which I play,
also a pretty little music box. I should be pleased if
some of the cousins in the far East could see our
pretty lowers, they are truly beautiful.

Otto H. Fisher, P. O. Box 75,
Giddings, Lee Co., Tex."

Dear Auntie:—May I be one of your nephews? I am
it years old, but not too young to be a Christian. I
have joined the church, and am trying to walk in the
straight and narrow way. It is very hard, as there
are a great many temptations which assail one who is
strying to be a Christian. But if we look to God for
aid and strength, we will surely conquer in the end.
I have joined the church, and am trying to walk in the
straight and narrow way. It is very hard, as there
we a great many temptations which assail one who is
strying to be a Christian. But if we look to God for
aid and strength, we will surely conquer in the end.
I have joined the church, and am trying to walk in the
straight and narrow way. It is very hard, as there
we a great many temptations which assail one who is
strying to be a Christian. But if we look to God for
aid and strength, we will sur

Yes, it is an excellent idea for you to read the ible through. If you could get a plan for Bible mading, arranged chronologically, it would be more atteresting than taking it in course; but whatever ay you try, stick to it.

way you try, stick to it.

Dear Auntie:—Will you let a Penna. boy join your merry band? I am Il years old, and live in a remote torner of Penna. (A place the cousins never heard of isuppose), where there is no school, Sabbath-school, ranything that a boy likes. So I take a good many papers. My 8 year old brother took COMFORT first, and he would not let sister or I read it, so to settle the matter, papa let me subscribe too. I like to read twork some arithmetic examples too, but do not like to work examples as well as to read. I remain your loving nephew,

Bed Bank Furnace, Clarion Co., Pa., Bed Bank Furnace, Clarion Co., Pa., Dear Aunt Minerva:—I live on a ranch at Battle Ground, near Caleb's Peak, where the Freighters had shard fight with the Indians 13 years ago, and one man was killed whose name was Caleb. I live with any mother and 2 brothers, my father is dead. I have 1 poney, her name is Maud. I take a ride every day, have 2 kittens, Roe and Roy, a dog named Cub and canary bird named Joe. In winter the snow falls teep; I have a grand time snow-shoeing. I am 13 fears old.

MaGGIE E. HASH, Houston, Idaho.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I wish to tell the cousins that

seep; I have a grand time snow-shoeing. I am 13 sears old. Maggie E. Hash, Houston, Idaho.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I wish to tell the cousins that am very sorry that I could not possibly answer all the letters sent me. I enjoyed them very much; shey were quite interesting and instructive. Perhaps he cousins would like to know how the natives celerate Christmas. Christmas eve they have a grand display of freworks, and all through the night we sear rumbling of cannons. Next day everybody can ght and shoot on the common until about I o'clock? M., when the "law" (as they call it) is out. I spent Jhristmas at home. We had chicken pie and some cod "New England" plum pudding and lots of other cod things. I will tell you what I had for presents; little dock, a writing desk, 7 handkerchiefs, a little ox in the form of a book, I received a handsome card a strap giotures from an uncle in Mass. I had plenty and, nuts, oranges and raisins. Roses were in sloom in our yard Christmas day. The thermometer egistered at \$4 degrees, only 10 degrees cooler than in indisummer. Good-bye dear Aunt and cousins. Your nicce, JENNIE A. MOWRY, Box 417, Ocala, Fla. What a very curious way to celebrate Christmas! is seems more like Fourth of July. But then it is all tange down there in your Southern country, with lowers blooming and birds singing when we Northmers look for cold and snow. I do not believe it sould ever seem like Christmas to me.

"I take Comport and I think it is an interesting aper for the boys and girls. I am a boy 16 years ald

ould ever seem like Christmas to me.

"I take Componer and I think it is an interesting aper for the boys and girls. I am a boy 16 years old. live in Atlanta, Ga., a large city with 80,000 population. I am working at the printers trade and like it ery much. Atlanta can boast of an electric street and any system, and waterworks, but the supply of a present waterworks being insufficient, the city is oling to construct a new system to cost about two allilon deliver.

facturing concerns here. They are constructing a building called the Equitable Building, constructed of steel and brick, not a piece of timber will be used. It will be 9 stories high, which is higher than any building in this city. SAMUEL A. WARE, 81-2 Marietta St., Atlanta, Ga."

building in this city.

8 1-2 Marietta St., Atlanta, Ga."

8 1-2 Marietta St., Atlanta, Ga."

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Will you admit a Minnesota nephew into your band? I skated nearly all day and am a little tired. I agree with Vernie Le Dane. I think we should have as much room as the older folks because we can make it interesting for you all. We have a debating society and it is well patronized in our country school. Our last subject was, "Resolved, that there is more pleasure in anticipation than in participation." I wish some of the consins could be here and hear us. It seems to me that the chats of the big folks are pretty much one sided argements. Sometimes there are two sides, then it is interesting. I belong to the children, and maybe I should not try to poke my nose in, but I can't help it. I sympathize with the "Shut Ins" for I have been one myself, but if we judge by John Taylor's letter we are to look on the dark side of it, or in other words not enjoy life in health because some are unhealthy. I say "make hay while the sun shines." He talked about girls marrying boys that take a social glassonce in a while and promise to leave off for her sake; if they don't keep their promise they don't think much of the girl, or else their promise they don't think much of the girl, or else their promise they don't think much of the girl, or else their promise they don't think much of the girl, or else their promise they don't think much of the girl, or else their promise they don't think much of the girl, or else their promise be hyd on't think unch of the girl, or else their promise be hyd on't think unch of the girl, or else their promise bey don't think unch of the girl, or else their promise be hyd on't think unch of the girl, or else their promise bey don't think unch of the girl, or else their promise bey don't think unch of the girl, or else their promise bey don't think unch of the girl, or else their promise else not worth much anyway. I think I have said enough for a kid, so I'll beg pardon of Mr. Taylor con

You have just as good a right to your opinion as the older folks, George; so speak right up!

"I will tell you something about this place. The valley here is very wide, the upper Delaware having nowhere such an extent of fertile plain. Cochecton village is neat and cosy with an air of pastoral ease about it that at once attracts visitors. The name Cochecton is a modern rendering of the Indian name Cushetunk. All this region was explored by the whites as early as 1687. In that year Governor Dougan desired authority from the board of New York to receive as a proper of the place. whites as early as 1687. In that year Governor Dougan desired authority from the board of New York to erect a campaign fort on the Delaware in 410 40, the present site of Cochecton, to protect the beaver trade of the country and protect the beaver trade of the country and protect the beaver hunters from the hostility of the French. It was from this point also that the possessions of William Penn extended westward to the Susquehanna. The great river flat of Cochecton was once the site of an important Indian village, to which trails led from all parts of the country; here the savages from a wide area of country met to observe their ancient customs. Here they 'burnt the white dog,' held their green corn dances, performed marriage ceremonies, and played their favorite games. Here (according to tradition) lived the great Indian Sachem Tamanend or Tamany, and the flats are yet known as St. Tamany's. The settlers of Cochecton dwelt for years among scenes of blood, but left a fair heritage to their posterity. The entire country does not possess a spot abounding in so many and such interesting legends as this garden spot of the Delaware. One of America's greatest romancists, J. Fenimore Cooper, enriched many of his works by scenes drawn from this locality. The scenery is fine, the surroundings healthful; there are several fine lakes among the mountains and many small streams. There is before you the beautiful country up and down the river, the relling land to the westward, with many high mountain peaks looking down into the fertile valleys and intervening stretches of Sullivan Co. bound the river on the east. With best regards to the owls and all the cousins. I remain your affectionate nice.

EMMA M. HARTMANN.

Box 61, Cochecton, Sullivan Co., N. Y."

If we are to have such interesting letters as some which appear this month, I am sure that the Editor

If we are to have such interesting letters as some which appear this month, I am sure that the Editor will soon be glad to give the young folks more space. I am thinking over some plans for our future meetings together, and hope before long to find an idea which will delight you all.

AUNT MINERVA, (Care of COMFORT.)

CANCER Its scientific treatment and cure.
Book free. Address Drs. McLeish &
Weber, 123 John St. Cincinnati, 0.

Cousin Habe's Reflections

I have a positive remedy for the above disease; by its use thousands of cases of the worst kind and of long standing have been cured. Indeed so strong is my faith in its efficacy, that I will send TWO BOTTLES PREE, with a VALUABLE TREATISE on this disease to any sufferer who will send me their Express and P.O. address.

T. A. Slocum, M. C., 181 Peurl St., N. Y.

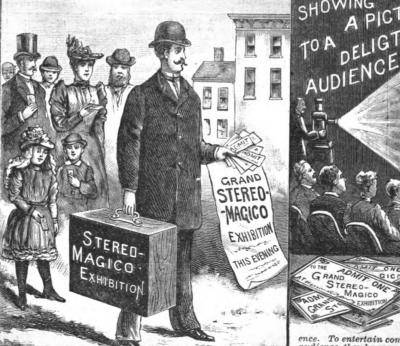
\$750.00 Promptly paid by us if You Read this Rebus.



\$300 IN CASH To the first person sending a rebus before Saturday, April 30th, 182; to the one giving the next correct answer to the above the third \$50\$, and to the next 10 persons sending in the correct answer we will give \$5 to each. To the person sending in the last correct answer we will give \$50\$, to the next 10 persons (should there be so many who send in the correct answer) \$5 to each. With your answer send \$25\$, cand to the next 10 persons (should there be so many who send in the correct answer) \$5 to each. With your answer send \$25\$, cash, or postal note, or 30c. In stamps for a subscription to our illustrated 16 page Paper, American Household Guest, worth a dollar a year. Our May issue will announce the result of the contest, with names and addresses of the winners. We have given away over \$100,000 in prizes and premiums to our subscribers in the past three years and now have over \$500,000 Circulation. Solve this rebus and send an answer at once. Write your answer and name and address plainly, and enclose subscription money to AMERICAN HOUSEHOLD GUEST, opposite P.O., Chicago.

MAGIC LANTERN EXHIBITIONS
one of the old style common Magic Lanterns have derived an endless amount of enjoyment, instruction and
profit from its use. We show in our engraving a full view of a New invention, it is called the Stereo Magic
Lantern and possesses great power and variety of adjustment and views. These Lanterns were invented in
Berlin and a large lot sent to this country presumably in time for Holiday trade last Dec., but steamer meeting with an accident became overdue and the whole lot was sold at a sacrifice at less than half cost. These
Lanterns are fully represented here just as they come packed in the cabinet, having handle and everything
convenient for carrying about. It stands 15 inches high and when open spreads over two feet wide. The
outfit consists of the new style circular Transparent pictures, also the regular long narrow style packed as
shown on right and left sides, there are also slip slides and changeable color revolving pictures same as
shown laying near Lantern, in fact the whole outfit would cost \$25.00 a few years ago. We now offer it all
entirely free to any Boy, Girl, Man or Woman who will send in a club of only 24 yearly subsoribers to ComJOPET at 25c. each. You can sell it for \$5.00 or \$10.00 next fall. We only being able to dispose of them at this
low rate on account of the remarkable combination of circumstances which gave us the chance of buying in
the spring instead of last fall when we should have had to pay a great price.





SHOWING A PICTURE

TO A DELIGTED AUDIENC

> TICKETS, SHOW BILLS and all goes with this Outfit FREE.

The Views show up on the screen in a magnified manner, and young people can work the machine without experience. To entertain company at home of an evening or to display the views to an audience, they have no superior, there has never been such an offer make as we are non-employed.

BED TIME STORIES TOLD BY THE LIGHT of the Moon

The subject of the Civil War was inadvertently introduced in a mixed company of Northern and Southern gentlemen, the other day, and unintentionally the discussion became warm. "Well, we licked you rebs, anyhow," said one of the Northerners. "Yes," replied the Southerner, blandly, "you did; but from the number of applicants for pensions I should judge we crippled every blamed one of you."





In the churches for colored people, in some parts of the South, when a collection is to be taken, the box, instead of being passed from pew to pew, is deposited upon a table in front of the pulpit, and the brethren and sisters are exhorted to come forward and put their contributions into it. A writer in the "Christian Union" says: "I had slipped into a back seat of a large African church, at Columbia, S. C., one Sunday evening, and was watching the taking of the offertory, when one of the deacons, with that tact which belongs to almost all the colored race, came and offered to carry up for me



any contribution which I cared to make. I handed him a twenty-five cent piece, and, with inimitable pomposity, he marched down the long aiele, carrying the beggarly coin so that everybody could see it. Suddenly he turned on his heel and started back, while the curious eyes of the crowd all turned to follow him. Arrived within speaking distance, the good old man called out, in a whisper audible to half the congregation: "Do you want any change?"



"Maud is a timid girl." said George. "Yes," said Estelle; "she'd jump even at a proposal."—Puck.

OOK! ELEGANT WATCH and CHAIN 25c, is what it will cost to register and mail or express the HANDSOMEST and finest ter and mail or express the HANDSOMEST and finest and Chain to you,—and they are perfect time keepers, best make, warranted to be letter than hundreds that are sold every day for \$10.00 or \$12.00 or \$12

PATTERNS. EACH AN ARTISTIC GEM.



Anemones.
Pansy Blossom.
Tiger Lily, 9 in. high.
Splasher Design, 11x22.
Bouquet Azaleas, 3x5.
Owl on Branch.
Calla Lily, 5x6.
Bird for Patchwork.
Clover Blossom.
Bunch Wheat. Pansy Blossom.
Tiger Lily, 9 in. high.
Splasher Design, 11x22.
Bunch Pansies, 4x7.
Pug Dog's Head, 8x10.
4 Fruit Dolly Designs.
Owl on Branch.
Calla Lily, 5x6.
Spray Wild Roses, 11 in.
Spray Forget-me-nots.
Spray Wild Roses, 11 in.
Spray Forget-me-nots.
Spray Forget-me-nots.
Spray Wild Roses, 11 in.
Spray Forget-me-nots.
Spray Forget-me-nots.
Spray Wild Roses, 11 in.
Spray Forget-me-nots.
S r only \$1.00.

Given free for a club of 8 subscribers. Address,

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.





We believe in making home a happy place to live in, and there take Comfort all the time; so we publish our beautiful magazine called "Comfort," to happify the lives of all. It has a picturesque title page showing 25 ways of taking comfort, and contains stories and sketches telling you all about it. The price is only 67c. a year but is superior to any dollar a year magazine published and rivals the \$6.00 ones; and in order to get every one to read it the first year, we give you

The Portable Panorama, a Household Joy, FREE.

Household Joy, FREE.

Your own Photograph enlarged I'te a steel engraving and a superb collection of manimoth magnified bird'seye views of the world. Art, Geography, Amusement, and Profit. Genuine gems of gorgeous scenes—pretty pictures portrayed as from a stereopticon or large magic lantern, a wonderful new invention for home or public use. Stereoscopes completely outdone—any picture you may have in the home enlarged tenfish. News placed in the panorama and brought under its powerful tenifold magnifying lenses are the home enlarged tenfish. News placed in the panoram and brought under its powerful tenifold magnifying lenses are to see the process of the pro

MORSE & CO., Box 2325, Augusta, Me. GIVEN FREE for a Club of 5 Subscribers at 25 cents cach.

THE MORSE "Perfect" Telegraph Instrument. THE MORSE PERFECTATELEGRAPH INSTRUMENTS
PATENT APPLIED EOB

Telegraph operators, both male and female, can always and lucrative and pleasant employment. There is a constant demand for them, and this instrument offers both old and young an opportunity to become proficeral in the art.

The Morse "Perfect "Telegraph Instrument will enable you to learn to receive and send messages by sound after a little practice. With each instrument abook of unstruction and the Morse Alphabet are sent free.

Unille other instruments in the market, the Morse "Perfect has the advantage as to size, and transmits the same sound instruments used in telegraph offices complete the world. Remember this is not a toy, but a prevent a teacher.

The cut shows the instrument in ministure form. We send the Morse "Perfect" Telegraph latrument securely packed in a box, with book of instructions and Morse alphabet on a card, all complete for 25 cents each, or three for 60 cents. By mail, postpaid.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers at 25.

postpaid.

Given as a premium for 4 yearly subscribers at 25 cents each, or send 30 cents for the instrument and we will include a six months subscription.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



If you want to be sure and get into a ten thousand dollar a year business where dollars roll right into your pockets without hardly any effort on your part, don't delay a minute, but write to Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine for particulars and free samples to start you in an honorable Summer, Fall and Winter business. Remember "Time and Tide wait for no man," and a postal in time saves you much disappointment, so don't allow anyone to get in ahead of you. Write today.

A BIG OFFER MINUTE! It you will haug u, in the place, the two show bills that we send, we will give you a 50c. cert, and send it in advance with samples and bills. This will trouble you about one minute, and then if you want to work on salary at \$50 or \$160 per month, let us know. We pay in advance, GIANT OXIE CO. 123 Willow St., Augusta. Me.





A demure young miss entered a well know jewelry store yesterday and walking up to car of the show cases stated her business without any hesitation. "I want to look at some gar ters" she said simply. The polite clerk produced some trays containing the latest non-ties in these delicate articles of female appair They are all supplied with dainty clasps oxidized silver, on which were the inscriptions. "Private Property," and "No Trespassing. One clasp was in the shape of a watch dialiperfect miniature timekeeper, with the execution that the hands were lacking. This seems to strike the fancy of the young miss. "E where are the hands?" she asked. "Why," plied the salesman, sententiously, "that mean hands off." The young lady immediately close, the bargain and left the store.

—Philadelphia Record.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

The hippopotamus—the Leviathan of Scripture—not a very cheefful beast to meet even when stung hars divide him from you. He is not at all the sort-thing one would care to make a friend of. There as three in the menagerie in the Central Park, No York; but even one of these, notwithstanding the term of her captivity she has become udacquainted with her keepers, is at times dangered and is never to be trusted.

It was then, to put it mildly, very unpleasant is the three men in a boat, as in our picture, to come a such close quarters with two of the great creature. These three men had been slowly rowing or salling up the Nile, occasionally meeting in its upper part one or a couple of the "river-horses." But the wisely let them alone, and fortunately were let also themselves. It happened one day that upon the han three of the ugly customers were sunning themselves one an infant on the back of another. The shot at the wisely let them alone, and fortunately were let also themselves. It happened one day that upon the han three of the ugly customers were sunning themselves to tempting for the youngest of the men and may his rifle fired at the young one.

There was a great thrashing of the water near me, while the man who had fired laughed gleefully at he row he had created.

"That stirred them up a bit," he said.

"You had better stir, or they will all be here in minute."

They seized the oars, but row as they would they were still a long way from land when the big bears rose from the water a little way astern of the bal In a minute more they were both even with the bal In a minute more they were both even with the bal In a minute more they were both even with the bal In a minute more they were both even with the bal In a minute more they were both even with the bal In a minute more they were both even with the bal in a minute more they were both even with the bal In a minute more they were both even with the bal In a minute more they were both even with the bal In a minute more they were stought there



MILLIONS IN IT.

The question of makin; money easily is always one of absorbing interest. And when we have an opportunity it sometimes happens that we know nothing of it and the chance slips by. There is no man or woman of ordinary intelligence who cannot make money out of Oxien. One of our agents writes to say. "I was almost obliged to go to the poorhouse. A friend persuaded me to take Cxien and I was make well in a short time. The medicine was so good that I induced all my friends to try it. Then I applied for an agency, and was immediately successful. In the first month I cleared \$200.00 and have been steady increasing ever since!"

Oxien is the greatest food for the Nerves ever discovered. It cures Nervous Prostration, Headache, Pain in the Back, Liver and Kidney troubles, Indigestion, Constipation, and weakness peculiar to Ferneles. It brings back the fire of youth to the debilitated and renews the wornout system. It sells at sight, and is the most money making article evo offered to agents. The Oxien Electric Porous Plaster has just been invented to assist nature and the fed indesperate cases of severe pain. La Grippe, Prenmonia and other like prevailing diseases hanish before these mighty agents for putting down these great plagues. Sample of Food and terms sent Free if you write to-day.



DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:

Oh. what a throng of Mystic Friends has assembled the "Realm of Comfore" this month, to greet their ar old friend Oldeastle, that old man who journeys the monthly from his ancient home in "Mystic and," to greet all who are taking Comfort and finding enjoyment in tangling and untangling the "Incate Knots from Puzzledom," and in chatting over yetic affairs.

Many new faces I see as I glance over the merry impany before me, and I rejoice to see so many takes an interest in this instructive as well as entertaing pastime. A hearty welcome to all, and an invitage in the seed of the

om January to July, 1892, will be published in "The lystic Castle" and the first in merit will receive the lold Medal.

Contributions have been received from:—Tyro, 7; fomulus, 5; Cleon, Roy, 4; Phil, Castranova, Con T. Implate, 3; Ben Net, A. F. B., 2; Savannah River, L. O. Chester, Jew V. Nile, U. Bet, Aspiro, 1.

Solvers to Dec. Mystic Castle are as follows:—Egantine, 17; Howard, P. A. Stime, Doc, 16; W. E. Vyatt, 14; Hercules, R. E. Flect, Ypsie, 11; Hi A. Watha, Valdemar, Castranova, 10; Remlap, Bill Arp, Delian, anney, Roland, Ben Net, 9; Aspiro, Remardo, Ruth, Buck I. Solver, 7; Mrs. C. C. Haskell, Philos, Percy Vere, Noah Count, Ajax, Canada, Nettie, A. Dhadwick, Thinker, Phil, A. F. B., 6; Chinkapin lidg., R. Ebus, Jew V. Nile, Tyro, 5; Roy, Pro Fesh, Irs. Sarah E. Hoitt, U. Bet, Texas, 4; Con T. Emlate, 3.

THE RESULT OF THE PRIZE WORD HUNT.

THE RESULT OF THE PRIZE WORD HUNT.

The recent Prize Word Hunt has turned out a sucsess in every particular, many finding it a pleasure o seek for the words to be found in "Olde stle." As he space for "The Mystic Castle" is limited to two olumns, and in order to make room for the "Myscries," it will be impossible to mention the names of Il who participated in this contest, so it has been deided to mention those only whose lists, after being orrected, were found to contain 200 or more words. The whole number of lists received was 266. These ontained all the way from 30 to 289 words. The hole number of words that can be found in the name oldcastle," complying with the conditions, is found be 243. The following is a list of the Prize-Winers, and those whose lists contained 200 or more ords.

PRIZE-WINNERS:—I. Veritas. 2. Solon. 3. Minne. PRIZE-WINNERS:—I. Veritas. 2. Solon. 3. Minne. Polis. 4. Hi A. Watha. 6. Maggie Downing. 6. Illiah S. Danford. Special.—The prize for the best appearing list, not neluding the above, is awarded to Miss Bertha L. nyder, Marshall, Minn., whose list was beautifully ritten and neatly arranged. Honorary mention is due Harry Klein, Salem, Mo., rank Oskin, Gentryville, Ills., Delian, Hopkinsville, ty., and many others whose lists were models of eatness.

extness.

Names of contributors whose lists averaged 200 or sore:—Veritas, 243; Solon, 235; Minns A. Polis, 234; 14 A. Watha, Maggle Downing, Buck I. Solver, 233; astranova, 232; Essay, Carl Murray, 230; J. O. Jeyers, 229; Philos, Nelile L. Hubbard, 227; F. C. Jeyers, 229; Philos, Nelile L. Hubbard, 227; F. C. Joe, Ypsie, 226; Harry Klein, 225; Hercules, 223; Zemlap, 222; Con T. Emplate, 218; Frank, Guy, N. J. Noble, 217; Charles R. Rogers, Mrs. M. L. Hillard, 14; Delian, 213; Burton Hall, Miss M. E. Burt, Miss Ianie, Stewart, 207; Frances Prothero, Miss Carrie E. Doons, 205; Ids L. Stowell, 204; Phil, Ben Net, Mrs. W. F. Blanchard, 203; Emma Hoag, 202; Roland, 201. Anyone desiring to have their list returned, with he corrections marked thereon, will receive it, if hey inclose two two-cent stamps with their request. Oldcastle is sorry that more space cannot be devoted in reference to this contest and also that it has some time for him to close his chat and take his homeward journey.

Heartily thanking all who participated in this conest and hoping to hear from you all often, I remain, Your dear old Mystic Friend, OLDCASTLE.

SOLUTIONS TO DECEMBER'S MYSTERIES.

SOLUTIONS TO DECEMBER'S MYSTERIES.

No. 249. "Glory to God!" the sounding skies Loud with their anthems ring; "Peace to the earth; good will to men, From Heaven's Eternal King."

No. 250. Genethliac. 1). 251. Ptysmagogue. No. 252. Cur-few.

No. 253. Bank-note.
No. 254. Pittsburg.
No. 255. O-PINION L-ADDERS D-ELATED C-HAS-EN A-STRICT S-TINTED T-ACTION L-EARNED E-QUERRY-GILDOASTLE.

No. 256. One of the holidays.

258. AT
HAWED
RAFFLES
JAWFALLEN
TELL-TALE
DELATES
SELECT
NESTS
COON No. 258. 257.
R E G I M E
E R A S E R Y
I S E R I N
M E T I N G
E R Y N G O No. 263. Tot-le(you, lee), CONDENSERS
No. 263. O No. 264
No. 263. O HATER
LIDIA
LIDIA
LISCALE
OLDCASTLE
JIASTEM
ALTER
LLM
ELM
ELM
ELM
SAMARITAN
WATERCRAKES
N F D
S
TAKES
N F D

No. 265.

C O H M E R R E D R P I N E S E I S T M A S E N T H E N E D E M E S N U P S E E P Y

No. 283. Numerical.

No. 283. Numerical.

The whole, composed of fifty-four letters, is a proverb.

The 38, 9, 6, 51, 8, 42, 40, 20, 7 is a fine thick cloth of wool mixed with silk.

The 49, 41, 3, 11, 38, 52, 13, 34 is to delay.

The 19, 31, 33, 40, 5, 25, 52, 16 is stock jobbing (Fr.)

The 29, 21, 24, 4, 50, 47, 53 is military life.

The 29, 17, 26, 10, 32, 16, 14 is one who puts into circulation.

The 2, 48, 12, 37, 54, 10 is the uniting of the parts of a wound by stitching.

The 18, 46, 45, 27, 53 is a port.

The 43, 30, 3, 35, 10 is a culinary utensil of various

forms.
The 50, 28, 1, 44 is a Persian weight used in weighing

earis.
The 23, 22, 15, 42 is a narrow alley.
Beaver Falls, Pa.,
No. 290. Square.

1. A long coat or overcoat. 2. Colors blue. 3. Scholars. 4. Any bird of the family Oriolidæ. 5. One who relates. 6. The nettle rash (Med.) Bloomington, Ills., ODELL CYCLONE.

No. 291. Square. 1. An officer who has the care of streets, etc. 2. Eats away. 3. Indefinite numbers. 4. To fix in the mind. 5. Plain. 6. A sect.

San Francisco, Cal., KERNEL.

No. 294. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A black fossil. 3. A Turkish viceroy. 4. A kind of precious stones. 5. Western. 6. Warm. 7. One who denies the deity of Christ. 8. Salt. 9. A WILD BILL, Jr. West Bingham, Pa.,

No. 295. Double Letter Enigma.

No. 295. Double Letter Enigma.

In the "Heavenly mansions" in the skies;
In the "Sinner's Friend," above;
In the "solvers" working for a prize;
In the "pretty" girls we love.

"Tis PRIMAL that we should LAST our brother,
As through this slort life we go;
And should be a lotat to one another,
On our journey here below.

Ardmore, Pa.,
No. 296. Diacope.

(Four-letter words.)

Ardmore, Pa.,

No. 296. Diacope.

(Four-letter words.)

1. Amputate "in the highest degree" and have a kiln for drying hojs; restore, apocopate and have months; guillotinate and leave a low ridge of gravel or sand.

2. Amputate the Hindu Pluto, and have a girl's name; restore, apocopate and have a root of a certain plant; guillotinate and leave a part of the verb obe.

3. Amputate a portion of time, and have a leaf of gold; restore, apocopate and have a watering place in Belgium; guillotinate and leave a father.

4. Amputate the apartment in a Chinese temple, and have a meadow, (obs.); restore, apocopate and have a metal; guillotinate and leave a nook or corner.

5. Amputate a phantom, and have a mark on silver dollars; apocopate and leave to deceive.

6. Amputate a shell, and have a common; restore, apocopate have to dwell upon; guillotinate and leave adhering.

Beheaded letters:—Obscure.

Curtailed letters:—To embarass.

Connected:—A form of puzzles.

Belton, Texas,

Belton, Texas,

Belton, Texas,

Correct solution.)

No. 297. Transposition.

PRIMAL is the death of him
Who thinks himself so great;
Final is the fame of him
Who dies in modest state.
Washington, D. C.,
No. 298. Square.

R. O. CHESTER.

Falls in very fine drops. 2. Entering. 3. New. That which draws. 5. A square cage of carpentry. To swallow with greediness. 7. More severe. Bennet, Nebraska,

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

For the first three complete or largest lists of solutions to this month's "Mysteries," the following prizes will be awarded:

1. Multum in Parvo Songster.

2. Six months' subscription to COMFORT.

3. Carl's Treasure Cabinet.

Specials:—Among all sending three or more solutions will be awarded, by lot, first, Dime Savings Bank; second, Morse Telegraph Instrument; third, three-months' subscription to COMFORT.

Solutions must be received prior to May 1, 1892, to be acknowledged in June "Mystic Castle."

PRIZES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS.

PRIZES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS.

1. Two fine twenty-five cent books are offered by Remardo for the best double six letter square, i.e. reading downward i i erently than across.

2. As Doc already mas a copy of "Payne's Business Pointers," he offers the copy won by him in a recent contest for the best batch of "flats," received before April 1, 1892. Mark pubbles "in Competition," and address Oldeast'e, Comfort, Utica, N. Y. If you wish to be notified by mail of the receipt of your letters, inclose a two-cent stamp.

SMALL POX pittings and all other blem-ishes of the skin removed; the skin removed; finformation. Dr. J. A. Collier, 177 W. 4th St., Clacinati, 0

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es, five cents per line entra. Satisfaction assured. Eagle Stamp Works, New Haven, Conn.





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near ove recurs the name of a South Western State, which sit? To the first person who sends a correct answer on or before May Mst. 1892, we will give \$2.00 in ash, To the Second \$5.00. To the Third \$2.50. To each of the next Ten, \$1.00. To each of the next Ten, \$5.00. To each of the next tenty-live, a Solid Gold filled ring. To each of the next twenty-live sending the correct answer we will send an Agent's outfit that retails for \$6.00. This great offer is made to istrained the best pain cure in the world, with your answer send \$0 et it, in stamps to pay for a package of Br. Pinero's Pain Pigment, a positive cure for Rheumatism, Headache and Neuralgia. Nothin equals it on the market. Write to-day, and be among the first, and secure one of the big prizes. Address:

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to the do, and to the next ten, \$3.0 cach. To the next
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To the person sending in the last correct answer
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and to the next 25 persons (should there be so
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shown.
Having found a box of LATll safe, we are going to be package of this po



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sition metal, and are wind and stem set. They come sold by dealers at from \$25 to \$30, and will wear equal to a so conting four \$10 to \$100. THE PARTLY CIRCLE is a large column flome Journal, conting the part of the state of the set of the se

MACNIFIES 500 TIMES



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a lintel for stage and many water, dried insects, etc., it is thousand purposes. This elegant polished brass finished gem is an instructor, as well as a great convenience in reading, etc. It has all the contrivances for handling butterflies and other beauties. The top of the instrument can be removed to insert objects for inspection, which include not only seed and grain, but hundreds of other materials, such as insects, bits of cloth, paper, fur, hairs, leaves, flowers, stones, ores, etc.; in fact, anything small enough to insert. It is valuable in detecting adulterations in food, such as flour, tea, coffee, sugar, spices and the fatal trichina spiralis or pork worm. Agents will find this to be the fastest selling article they have ever handled, for its novelty and the wonders it reveals excite the curiosity of the people and they will buy. It sells at sight everywhere. The agent is not considered a bore while showing it, for it interests every one. Each microscope is sent securely packed in a box. Price only 37 cts.; 3 for \$1.00. They have generally sold for \$1.00 singly, but buying in large quantities, we get a low price. Send today and we include a 3 months trial subscription to Confort.

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AGAIN IN ITS GRASP.

Tightening its toils, we mean that sneezing, coughing, back-aching malady—that creeps stealthily on its victim, bears him down for a time and when confident of recovery takes him from our midst—epidemic, influenza or La Grippe.

In this land, as in others, it sneered at the attempts of our scientists and medics to arrest its terrible course.

In a twinkling, old, middle aged and young were seized as victims and struggling in its grasp.



Fully 50 per cent. were destined never to recover. Many families were extinguished entire. Many were torn apart and the few remaining members left with the memories of a once happy home.

Thousands were brought to a bed of suffering for the remainder of their life. Thousands more were left subjects for the mad house.

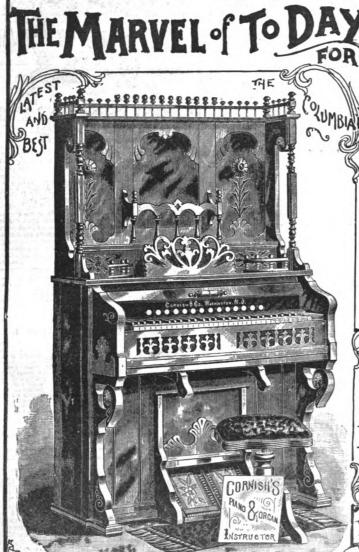
The heroic endeavors of the medical profession saved many of those who were stricken with La Grippe, but in most of those cases the saving of life was but to prolong the misery, for it is well known that wherever the monster sets its seal, it is sure to leave unfavorable results, but in the past record of the distemper it has been proven that that little plain, simple tablet cailed Oxien, had a large sized mission to perform in this one particular, and how well it did its duty is attested by the numerous letters received from our grateful friends. OXIEN probably did more to ward off La Grippe, lessen the suffering, and effect a complete cure than any or all of the advertised remedies.

The dieaded disease takes a ready hold of the system unpepared to withstand its ravages and it is a duty you allowe to your friends and relatives, to be fortified upon the arrival of the first symptoms. How shall we do this?

Keep a supply of the food on hand. When you feel a slight cold coming on, look out, it is the warning note. The sneezing, hacking and coughing is the messenger of warning sent you. Commence taking the tablets as directed and you will note with pleasure the results. No great bottle of medicine to dose from. A supply for the day can be carried in the vest pocket. The busy man's companion and friend. Pleasant, Effective, Inexpensive.

Do not wait until La Grippe has you in bed or on the way to the grave, for the Giant Oxic Co., Augusta, Maine, will send you without charge a sample package if you apply this month, together with new special directions so you can use it as a hot beverage.

16



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AN EXACT PICTURE OF THIS FAMOUS ORGAN SH& CO WASHINGTONNEW ESTABLISHED 25 YEARS JERSEY



FASHION'S FANCIES.

e are some things about dress that concern the small

With regard to the burning question of dress, considerations of stature have much to do. Certain styles are the despair of the diminutive, while others appear wholly inappropriate to the tall. Possibly the favors of Madame Fashion are really pretty fairly distributed, but there is not much doubt about who will receive them during the coming season.

The small-sized portion of the female population did thier level best to prevent the deep basques from becoming fashionable last winter, but how will they combat the horizon of the three-quarter length bodice?

bodice?
This riddle is deplorably easy to solve. They will grumble, but, alas! the great majority will give in, though a coat reaching to the knees is of all garments the most hideous for them. How many will have the courage to act up to their convictions of what is really becoming?

My small sisters, let me entreat you to curtail your basques, or die in the endeavor.



In our younger days we were always told never to ring peacock's feathers into the house, for they were nuch too unlucky to be allowed an entrance under ny circumstances.

much too unlucky to be allowed an entrance under any circumstances.

But alas everything changes. Not only are peaceck's feather fans to be seen now in nearly every drawing-room, but during the coming cool weather they are to be pressed into the service for feather boas. They look charming in conjunction with black toque or with ostrich feathers, and harmonize well with some of the blues to be worn this winter.

Another combination boa which is warm to look at and light to wear, is marabout and turkey feathers. Coque feathers are often now curled before they are used.

used.
Feather trimmings of all sorts will be much seen the next few months.

The comsng change of fashion brings about some curi There is no doubt that the reign of false hair has

There is no doubt that the reign of faise hair has begun again in real earnest.

It is quite impossible for those whose hair barely suffices for a little low knot in their neck, to extend it, so that it may wander about in curl after curl, or loop after loop, as is now the fashion, and consequently there is nothing to be done but to go to the hairdresser for assistance.



Apparently a few folks—I cannot quite bring myself to write gentlewomen—think they know a yet more excellent way, and I am immensely amused just now to read the "wants" in some of the ladies' papers. Over and over again I notice: "Wanted a good tail of dark brown hair, cheap," or "Pretty brown curls mounted; also, switch of brown hair, cheap," and so on in various styles, all showing the desire to became fashionable at the lowest possible cost.

These ladies, I notice, do not add that it will be necessary for them to see the tails and the switches before they purchase them, but surely they must mean this, for no woman can be so utterly oblivious of the fitness of things that she could contemplate with equanimity variegated hair. Brown may sound an easy color to match; but if you try and think of two friends who could change hair undetected, you will find it no easy task.

Whether it would be a comfortable sensation to wear a twist of hair which had recently belonged to some unknown person, I would rather not discuss. I suppose the argument would be used that all hair belonged to someous else once, so that one thing is not worse than the other.

Maybe, but happy are those who can arrange their hair to their satisfaction unaided by second-hand switches.

A SPECIAL EASTER NUMBER.

The April issue of COMFORT will be an attractive number and have new entertaining and novel features besides those appropraite for the Easter month. Would it not be well for all to subscribe now while the price is but 25 cents a year.



This in the days of the Ameteur photographic fiend is

re than passing interest.

Russian photographers have a strange way of hing those who, having received their photos, pay their bills. They hang the pictures of the quents upside down at the entrance to their.

How horrid!

delinquents upside down at the entrance to their studio. How horrid:

I should think a sensitive beauty, equally with a man who values his credit, would thus be induced to send a cheque at once, and so ensure their discharge from the topsy turvy brigade. It is rather hard, though, on the children who are treated thus because their parents are slow in remembering that likenesses of their little ones cost money.

Progress of The World's Fair.

Progress of The World's Fair.

Matters pertaining to the great Columbian Exposition or World's Fair in Chicago are rapidly approaching completion. Every day sees some new building started, and may be to the directors. The world at large is beginning to realize that the Fair at Chicago is an undertaking such as has never before been attempted. The United States is a great country, and the World's Fair at Chicago will not belie the Nation's reputation. In comparison with the great Fairs that have been held in Europe, and notably with the Parist Exposition of two years ago, the plan of the coming in its general representation as to render all Fairs of the past small affairs in comparison. The great Fair in London held at the Crystal Palace, which the Englishmen have never got through talking about, is hardly a circumstance to the one at Chicago. The main building at Chicago is larger than the whole area occupied by the entire Paris Exposition. It is almost an impossibilities and the World's and the World's such as the world and the World's such as the world

and planted the colors of Spain, and declared country, in the name of Ferdinand and Isabella is a part of the Spanish domain.

a part of the Spanish domain.

It is sad to relate that Columbus on his return his second voyage fell a victim to the jealousies of people belonging to the Court of Ferdinand sabella, who feared the great honor that was sail accruing to Columbus for his great work. He seized and imprisoned, and for many years mass and chained to the floor. Time, however, has risk this great injustice, and the name and fame of Combus is forever secure.

bus is forever secure.

One of the great features in connection will World's Fair and one which is of more impossible to women in the management, is the prominence to women in the management of this great py It is a sign of enlightened civilization peculiar to wn country. We are more liberal in our tests of the weaker sex than the nations of Europe. By probable that in no country except the United St would such power be delegated to representative female population. It is an evidence how that our civilization is several years in advance the effect emonarchies of Europe, and the time is far distant when the position of women in this way will be equal to that of the men, and with woman's work will be accepted as of the same as that of a man.

Chicago tiself is one of the most wonderfalcing

Chicago itself is one of the most wonderfulcitist modern times. Even Rome when she "Sat upon be even hills and from her throne of beauty raise if World" would not compare with the fourth ward

World's would not compare with the fourm was Chicago.

The enterprise of the Chicago people long ago came proverbial, and justly so. Think what inset that on the spot where less than two generations that on the spot where the stan two generations the Indian roamed at will, and the wolf beighter where the only structures were the block-house the stockade called by courtesy Fort Dearbor, half dozen log-houses along the Creek which is stituted the settlement, in one of which Paul Bablived and sold a few groceries and more rum—but this spot we have to-day a magnificently build on broad avenues, faced with substantial builds many of them of architecture hitherto unequaled this or any other country; with a population of than twelve hundred thousand people.

What other city on this world requires forty poffices to accommodate its citzens? Yet this is case with Chicago. What other city on this world requires that see with Chicago what other city on this useful and the seed of the world and the seed of the s



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♠ Change for the Worse

LET WELL ALONE.

CHAPTER I.

"Nice time o' night to come home Daniel Farlow!" said Susan, as her spouse crept up the stairs leading to their bedroom, and began to take off his coat. "Nigh on to eleven o'clock, and poor me shivering here alone these two hours!"
"I couldn't get home sooner Susan," began Daniel. "There was a meetin' up to Joe Millers' bout the surprise party to be given the minister at Easter, and—""Now that'il do Dan'l, I've had quite enough of your meetin's lately, and I just wish you'd give me a surprise party by coming home earlier nights. Her as an I tolling and striving from dawn to dark to keep the house and the children clean, and you are off every night when you come from the store, and I see no more of you after supper till nearly midnight! I'm about sick of it, there!"

Susan gave her nightcap a vigorous tug as she turned her face to the wall, and Daniel hoped she had gone to sleep.

turned her face to the wait, and banks about a segment to sleep.

He was a mild mannered man, and a very hard worker, who had raised himself up from errand boy to book-keeper in the large clothing store in the village. He had married young, and his family consisted of a boy and girl aged five and three respec-



HE PUT ON HER LITTLE PETTICOAT AND DRESS WRONG SIDE BEFORE.

tively. Daniel was by no means a spendthrift, as anybody could see by a glance at his comfortable little home and well clad wife and children, but Susan was of such an exacting and nervous disposition that she could not tolerate her husbands spending either time or money out of her presence.

Some women have got the strange idea that their husbands are only actually safe when in their sight, and that the world outside of home is fraught with innumerable dangers from which men have no power to protect themselves. Many wives will worry more if their husbands are out later than usual at night, than if their baby had strayed away and got lost. Daniel knew that his wife was afflicted in this way, but she had other shortcomings which were as bad or worse. She was of an irritable, complaining nature, and seldom gave him any peace when he was in the house, so it was little wonder that he stayed so much out of it. But, for all that, he was a good provider for home, strictly temperate, and well liked by everybody.

He crept into bed with a sigh, and settled himself

vider for nome, strictly temperate, and wen inked by everybody.

He crept into bed with a sigh, and settled himself down for a good sleep. He was in a warm, comfortable condition after the exercise of his long walk and anticipated a sound slumber. But Susan's cold feet coming in contact with his ankles caused him to start involuntarily.

"Oh of course! I suppose my feet are cold," exclaimed Susan without turning her head. "No wonder I am an icicle, trembling here in the cold since nine o'clock! I don't know how you men folks think we poor women get on in our loneliness and discomfort."

nine o'clock! I don't know how you men folks think we poor women get on in our loneliness and discomfort." I'd on't see what you lack in comfort Susan," ventured poor Daniel.

"You don't eh? You don't because you won't that's why! How do you suppose I can go to sleep, and you out nobody knows where? Do you think I have any nerves or feelings?"

"Why yes, I know you have, but you also have as many home comforts as any woman in the village. You seem to forget that I have to work all day to keep you and the children, and while you are home in safe shelter, I have to go out in all weathers."

"Work all day!" sneered Susan, turning round with a jerk, and staring fiercely at the ceiling. "You call thard work to sit on a stool and write, do you? Oh don't I wish I was in your place, and had nothing else to worry me but what you have."

"I wish you were," returned Daniel sarcastically. "You'd soon be sorry for your condition. Here you are with a good home, everything of the best in it, don't owe a cent in the world, have a couple of nice children and a devoted husband and yet you are not satisfied! Well, well, I wish I was a woman and in your place!"

"And I wish I was a man and in your place," retorted Susan, as she turned round to the wall again determinedly.

Daniél remained silent and thought himself to sleep, satisfied that if he spoke again, Susan would maintain the recognized feminine privilege of having the last word.

the last word.

CHAPTER II.

When Daniel woke up at six o'clock on the following morning he experienced a most peculiar sensation. His face felt remarkably cold, and on raising his hand to it he found that his whiskers and moustacks had disappeared! His surprise was intensified when he discovered that Susan, who was snoring away at his side, was wearing them!

In a dazed kind of way he got out of bed, and with an instinct which he could not account for, put on Susan's garments and went downstairs to start the fire and prepare breakfast. Now, he knew as much about lighting fires and cooking as the goose quill pen with which he scratched all day long, so it was only by dint of using six times the usual amount of wood and a little kerosene that he was able to start the fire at all. Then he put some coffee in a saucepan, poured some cold water over it and placed it on the stove to boil.

It was strange, but he did not seem greatly astonished when Susan came downstairs dressed in his office clothes, and asked him to hurry up with the breakfast or she would be late at the store. He noticed that she complained of the coffee, refused to eat the buckwheat cakes, which were burned and leathery, and that she started off to the village practically without breakfast, after admonishing him to wake Freddy and the baby, and see that no harm befel them during the day.

There had been a kind of scared and mystified look upon Susan's face, and he imagined somehow that she must have been as ill at ease and dumfounded as he was, but neither of them mentioned anything to express their feelings.

His wife gone, after he had helped her on with his overcoat and given her his rubbers and umbrella Daniel sat down and began to think what he should do first. He had to wake the children and wash and duress baby, give them their breakfasts of bread and butter and hominy, then wash the breakfast dishes, darn his own socks and Susan's, put the next day's wash to soak, feed the chickens and the pigs, clean the tinware, make the beds, iron the l

and scrub the kitchen and the hair stairs before the moonday meal.

He knew very little about any of these domestic duties, and therefore did not undertake them exactly in their proper order. He woke up Freddy and little May and tried to wash and dress the latter, but the baby resented his interference and would not do anything but cry "Mama." Even when he was through dressing her, she did not seem as usual, and then Daniel discovered that he had put on her little petticot and dress wrong side before. He spent half an hour rectifying the wrong, and then started to get the children's breakfasts, only to find that the fire, which he had neglected, had gone out

were crying with hunger, and when he had appeased that, they began to cry for their mother. Then his calamities set in in dead earnest. He broke at least half of the crockery in washing it. He darned up the leg holes in all the socks so that nobody could get their feet in, and pierced his fingers in half a dozen-places with the darning needle, he put the soiled linen to soak in the dairy tubs, gave the pigs food to the chickens and vice versa, burned nearly every piece of linen he tried to iron, broke the parlor ornaments and had a lamp explosion before he realized that it was time to prepare dinner. Then he found that the fire had gone out again!

When he had relighted the fire with more wood and kerosene, he began to think what he was going to get for dinner anyhow. He had forgotten to prepare some vegetables and could not find any meat in the larder. Then it occurred to him that the butcher's cart had passed while he was washing the dishes, so there was no likelihood of getting any meat that day.

"Well." he thought, "the children will have to be

art had passed while he was washing the dishes, so there was no likelihood of getting any meat that day.

"Well," he thought, "the children will have to be satisfied with bread and butter, but what will I do for Susan's dinner when she comes home from work in the evening?" He decided on catching and killing a chicken, which he did. It took him nearly all the afternoon to pluck the feathers from the fowl and clean it, and then he consulted with himself whether he should boil or roast it. As soon as he had determined on roasting it he found that the fire had gone out for the fourth time!

Now Daniel was a Christian man and a staunch church member, but he felt like going through an improvised communion service when he looked at the clock, the condition of the house, the children, the dead chicken and the fireless grate! It was five minutes to six and he knew that even at that moment Susan was on her way home to supper; and where was her supper? The children were crying, the tables were filled with crockery, the floors strewn with all manner of things, the beds were unmade, the lamps not trimmed, the rooms were chilly, and the fire—well there wasn't any!

Daniel sat down in despair. How on earth could Susan get through all the work she did in a day, always having things straight, and yet finding time to read or to do a little sewing or fancy work? And he thought, and had said, that she had a soft snap of it! Why he wouldn't be in her place for a—But then he was in her place, and by his own wish fervently expressed only the night before! He had under-rated his wife's domestic duties both in their nature and extent, and now he could see that this "change for the worse" was a judgment upon him.

CHAPTER III.

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Susan had no sooner left the house in the morning than she began to realize that the actual wearing of the breeches was much more uncomfortable than wearing them in a matrimonial and figurative sense. After her first horrified glance in the mirror that morning she had not dared to raise her hands to her face except when washing, and she was in mortal terror that some of the neighbors would see her and pass some remarks as to her appearance.

But everybody she met greeted her with a "Good morning Danie!" so it was evident that the exchange of persons was, to outward view, complete. The mile and a half walk, however, almost tired her out, and it was with lagging steps that she walked into Mr. Blodger's store nearly ten minutes after the proper time.

Blodger's store nearly ten minutes after the proper time.

"Come Daniel you're late, and don't seem in a hurry either," cried the head of the firm, as he stood in the counting-room waiting for his book-keepers appearance. "Here are thirteen letters want immediate attention—ten of them are orders to go out this morning. I want the ledger posted up to date and all outstanding accounts to go out before you leave to-night. Then look up that bill of Smith, Prosser & Co. and check it from the invoices. I fancy they have overcharged us. And say, keep the clothing, gents furnishings, and shoe departments receipts separate so that we can estimate the profit on each. By the way, check that bill of Bunker's first thing, his traveling salesman will be here to-day and I want you to talk to him about that last lot of goods. Have the paysheets ready by noon, ready to pay off and write to



SUSAN SAT AT THE DESK UNTIL LONG PAST NOON.

"You'd soon be sorry for your condition. Here you are with a good home, everything of the best I here you are with a good home, everything of the best I had been constituted as the sorry for your condition. Here you are not satisfied! Well, well, I wish I was a woman and in your place," retorted Susan, as she turned round to the wail again in the intermedial to the wall again in the proper of the same in an and in your place," retorted Susan, as she turned round to the wail again with the recognized feminine privilege of having the last word.

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Daniel was beside her in bed looking very sad and very frightened.
"Daniel," said she "I have had a bad dream!"
"So have I, Susan," he replied, "and I am very thankful it was a dream!"
"I thought, Daniel, that I had to do your work at the store all day!" said Susan.
"And I thought that I had to do your work in the house all day!" rejoined her husband.
"Daniel, I wouldn't have your work for the world."
"Susan, I wouldn't have your work for the world."
"I think it is wisest, Daniel, to let well alone and be contented with our lot!"
"So do I," murmured Daniel, "or we might make a change for the worse."

John S. Grey.

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BCTION IN PRICES:

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cents; goatees 5 cents each; four for 15 cents; one dozen, 40 cents, mailed postpaid.

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FALSE BEARDS AND SIDE WHISKERS.
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rest." PRIC at 25 cents each



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Yes, actually Given Away for a Few Hours' Work.

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SOME INDIAN LEGENDS.—THE INDIANS' HORSE.

SOME INDIAN LEGENDS.—THE INDIANS' HORSE.
Almost everybody knows Ned Todd and all like to
hear him tell stories for two reasons. First, his stories
can always be relied on as authentic; second, because
they are thrilling.

It was evening at the Sturgeon House in Okl thoma
City and quite a group of people were gathered there.
Among them Tom P. Morgan and John H. Whitson,
two authors who have aided in giving to the great
West a literature.
There was also pretty Winnie Dawson the school
teacher, and her lover. Jack Royal a handsome

West a literature.

There was also pretty Winnie Dawson the great
There was also pretty Winnie Dawson the schoolteacher, and her lover, Jack Royal, a handsome
young dry goods clerk. These with some half a
dozen others went to make up an audience who were
waiting the arrival of Ned Todd. Some small boys
were there also waiting impatiently his return.

"Bet he tells us a good un to-night, Jimmie," said
one little fellow to his companion.

"Bet he does."

"Hair raiser."

"Yes."

"Yes."

"Yes."

"Yes."
"They raise hair, don't they?"
"Papa says so."
Tom Morgan wanted to know if the boys liked Indian stories.
"Yes," said one.

"Yes," said one.
"Then why don't you read some of Whitson's
stories? He can give you a hair raiser."
Whitson who heard this sally said:
"Your poems, Tom, would sell well in the nursery."
"Hush, here comes Major Todd," said Winnie

Dawson.

Major Todd, or Ned Todd as he would be called, entered the parlor and gazing around on the eager faces asked:

"Well, what does all this mean? You look as if you were expecting something."

"We are," answered Winnie.

"What?"

"You."

"Now get your pipe, Mr. Todd," said Winnie.
"Now get your pipe, Mr. Todd," said Winnie.
"Why"
"Whenever you get your pipe that means a story is

"It does."
"Well, Miss Winnie, didn't I promise you something to-night?"
"You did. To tell me about Indians."
"What about them?"
"Some of their traditions."
"Well, I could not tell all their traditions. They

"Well, I could not tell all their traditions. They are too many."

Here Ned Todd produced his pipe and tobacco pouch. The small boys clapped their hands and began to shout for joy."

"What does that mean?" Ned Todd asked.

"It means yer goin' to tell us a tale."

Ned smiled.
"Now. John, get your nancil!" whichered Them Medical Pour Medical Pour New York.

Ned smiled. 'Now, John, get your pencil,'' whispered Tom Mor-n. "You will need it to jot down ideas he'll give "No, Tom, you can have the first. Give me the second."

second."
"What sort of a tradition do you want, Miss Win-nie?" Ned Todd asked.

"No, Tom, you can have the first. Give me the second."

"What sort of a tradition do you want, Miss Winnie?" Ned Todd asked.
"Any." Ned Todd asked.
"Any." Ned Todd asked.
"Indian traditions are peculiar. It is said that Fecumseh believed in the supernatural and when he went about getting up the great confederation which terminated with his death at the Thames, he told all the people that the Great Spirit had commissioned him to be their leader. The Indians believed him. He went south and while among the Tuckapache Creeks told them that the Great Spirit had ordered him to organize all the Indians into a vast army and drive the white people out of the land and across the great water from whence they came. The son of the Tuckapache chief was one day in the wood when he met a snake. Indians have a strong superstition about snakes and many of them will under no consideration kill one.
"The snake, according to the Indian's story, invited the young man to follow him and led him through many paths in the forest and finally into the river. The young Indian was at first afraid to plunge into the cold water and until assured by the snake, in whom he had the utmost confidence, he would be supported from drowning by an unknown power, did he make the venture. A few days previous the young Indian had thrown his silver hatchet at a bird and it had fallen in the river and was lost. His father had commanded him to leave and not return until he brought back the hatchet.

"When it was reported that the son was seen to plunge in the water the old chief was very sorry he had been so cruel to him and mourned him as dead.
"A few days later as the chief or king of the Tuckapaches was passing the river he saw an old man sitting on a stone. He was covered with great queer scales like a fish and the chief recognized him as the river king.
"Don't be uneasy about your son,' said the river king, he will return. And don't you decide to go to war with the Shawnee chief (Tecumseh) until you have seen your son."
"When the chief returned he found

king, 'he will return. And don't you decide to go to war with the Shawnee chief (Tecumseh) until you have seen your son.'

"When the chief returned he found old Tecumseh the daring Shawnee anxious for his decision. The bundle of arrows had been presented to him but he would not accept the token.

"I am going north to Michigan,' said Tecumseh, 'and when I get there I will stamp on the ground and you will feel the jar here.'

"The Tuckapache believed the river king and determined not to decide until his son returned. After spending nine days in the water the chief's son came back. He was a marvelous young fellow (no doubt for lying), and he told how he had been enticed into the river by the snake and joined the water king who lived in great splendor under the water in a green palace which was walled and tapestried with moss and beautified with water cresses. That on a throne made of living serpents he saw the river king, at whose right side sat his daughter, a maiden of sixteen or seventeen of rare beauty. In fact the young chief fell in love with her.

"The business of the water king was to instruct the young man to tell his father under no circumstances to join the Shawnee chief in the war against the whites as the red men would be defeated and the great leaders all slain. That Tecumseh was a fanatic and the prophet a humbug. The Tuckapaches decided to have nothing to do with the man.

"On Tecumseh's return north or about that time the New Madrid carthquake shook the western continent and the Indians all said:

"The Shawnee chief is crazy and is stamping his foot on the ground."

"A few days later the chief's son disappeared. Weeks went by and he was not seen. Then the old

foot on the ground."
"A few days later the chief's son disappeared.
Weeks went by and he was not seen. Then the old man mourned him as dead.

"One day a favorite warrior who had been fishing all night at the river returned to the chief's wigwam and told him he had seen his son on the night before. That at midnight while the moon was riding high in a cloudless heaven, he was fishing at the river when two beings appeared from beneath the water. One was the chief's son on whose body green scales had begun to grow and the other was a beautiful maiden who was green and whose hair was like water moss. They shouted in the water and their arms were entwined like lovers about each other. The old chief believed the story and was comforted by it, though he never saw his son. He used to go and sit for hours on the river bank hoping he would come up but he never came."

on the river bank hoping ne would come up on never came."

When Ned Todd had finished this wild Indian tradition everybody was breathless with attention. Winnie at last asked:

"And was it true?"
"No child," Todd answered.
Everybody but Jack Royal laughed. Jack would not laugh no difference how ridiculous Winnie's remarks might be.

"Why did the Indians make up such a story?"

"The Tuckapachee's did not want to go into the war and this story was a subterfuge to keep out of it."

"He was probably drowned while fishing."
"He was probably drowned while fishing."
"The Indian is a remarkable specimen of the human race." John H. Whitson the author began. "His imagination is fertile, his perceptions keen and his observation of animals and nature broad.
"To the poor Indian whose untutored mind, See's God in every cloud and hears Him in the wind."
"Tell us another Indian story," interrupted Winnie.
"One not so much a fairy story as that."
"So my little girl has got too large for real fairy stories," said Ned Todd with a kindly smile at Winnie who blushed very perceptibly.

stories," said Ned Todd with a kindly smile at Winnie who blushed very perceptibly.
"Well, young children and old children like to hear stories of animals."
"Yes, yes," cried the boys.
"How would you all like a story of an Indian and his horse?"
"Splendid," cried Winnie clapping her hands.
"First class," Jack Royal answered.
"Bully!" cried one of the small boys.
Everybody looked at the little fellow and he hid his face in his hands.
Ned's pipe was filled now and he set it going. He smoked a few moments in silence and then began:

THE STORY OF THE INDIAN AND HIS HORSE.

THE STORY OF THE INDIAN AND HIS HORSE.

"There still lives in the western part of the Cherokee Nation an Indian with the cuphonious name of Saludaw-whisk, which translated in English means corn-planter. Well, in order to not strain my jaws by using such a barbarous name l'il call him by his English cognomen, at the risk of damaging the romance.

"Cornplanter was an honest planter, a farmer who had a small field and some cattle, but he lacked the thrift essential to success. He grew corn and wheat just enough to supply himself and his wife and five children. Cornplanter spoke English well, lived in a log house, had a barn and was quite civilized, but poor.

"The Indian had but one piece of property of which had a saved and that were avenue here, which he

just enough to supply himself and his wife and five children. Cornplanter spoke English well, lived in a log house, had a barn and was quite civilized, but poor.

"The Indian had but one piece of property of which he was proud and that was a young horse, which he had raised from a colt. It was black as jet, and called Midnight. The most knowing animal perhaps one ever saw. How he got such a creature was a mystery. Its hair was fine as silk and its skin glossy and soft as satin. No thoroughbred in all the world could beat it in speed and endurance. The colt grew up with the children. They fondled it, and often a little dusky head could be seen sleeping side by side with Midnight. The wife and children loved the horse almost as much as one another. One day in an evil hour Cornplanter took Midnight to the fair at Muskogee, where he was seen by the great white men who had come there and Midnight was the admiration of all. Of course he took the premium. He won the races and untrained as he was it was evident that nothing could equal him in speed.

"Cornplanter was asked his price but would not give it. He was beguiled by a willy white man from California into drinking fire water for which he had an unfortunate weakness and when drunk sold his horse for the paltry sum of two hundred dollars. The oldest boy, a lad of twelve who was a bright lad for his years, realized what was done and mounting the horse rode him home. When Cornplanter became sober he followed his son, but the white man was not going to give up his bargain. He came in a day or two to their home and asked for the horse. Redbird the boy had him concealed in the wood.

"They could either give up Midnight or he would have the father arrested and sent to Fort Smith for fraud on a white man.

"It was a bitter trial. They begged the white man to take back the two hundred dollars but he refused to do it and demanded the horse. Midnight had to go. The Indian children embraced him for the last time, their tears fell on his glossy skin and the father and mother

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of which are named below.

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1 Design Love Lies Bleeding 6x7 in.

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1 Bird. [the-Valley 5x5 inches.

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2 Design Lady's Bust 5 inches high.

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4 Design Sunflower 6 inches high.

5 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

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1 Outline Design Man "ye olden time."

1 Outline Design "Scoot, Brother,

1 Butterffy. [Scoot." Comic.

2 Des. Good Luck Horse Shoe and Design Crescents.

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3 Design For fannel embroidery 2½ wide.

3 Design For fannel embroidery 2½ wide.

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3 Spray of Jonquil (6x7 inches.

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2 Sprays Daisics 4 in. high.
2 Sprays Daisics 4 in. high.
3 Design of Buttercup.
3 Design of Buttercup.
4 Vine Holly 4 inches wide.
4 Design Daisics 4 in. high.
4 Large Rose Bud.
5 Mushroom 4 inches high.
6 Design of Dog.
6 Cluster of Roses.
6 Daisy Designs.
7 Clover Design 10 in. high.
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A TABLE D'HOTE RESTAURANT.

How They Eat in New York.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE RESTAURANTS THAT SUPPLY THE TRANSIENT VISITOR WITH THE MEANS OF SUS-

Something About the Restaurants That Supply The Transient Visitor With the Means of Sustenance.

In a city that daily entertains over 30,000 strangers, the provision made for their bodily comfort is one of the sights of New York. There are all sorts and conditions in which to feed them. A square meal costs all the way from twelve dollars to twelve cents according to losality. The "Jim Fiske," "Beefsteak John's," "Billy Hitchcock's," and others of like noto-lety, adorn the famous Bowery, and a repast in any of these establishments costs all the way from eight to twenty cents. A cigar is a luxury, and never costs more than three or five cents. The wholesale customer obtains four cigars for ten cents.

Up-town and on the West side are numerous French dining-rooms, where a splendid dinner of six or eight courses can be had for one dollar, including wine. Most well-to-do New Yorkers indulge in this aristocratic taste nowadays, and the bill for wine more than equals the cost of the dinner. Many of these table D'Hote restaurants as they are called a fitted up in fine style and enjoy a lucrative patronage. The average Bowery coffee cup is about half an inch thick, and the edge reveals scars more honorable than agreeable. The sensation of drinking from a cup trimmed with sand paper may be unique, but it is certainly not appetizing. In most cases the illusion is further heightened by the close resemblance the scarred piece bears to sand paper in color. I regret to say however that the appearance of this stain in no wise interferes with the usefulness of a Bowery cup, nothing short of absolute annihilation ever does that.

The rest of the service is of the same interesting character. The dinner plates suggest armor plates for a new orulers so formidible are they in point of construction. They too, revel in well worn edges, and rejoice in the added distinction of original decoration. An intricate network of hair-like lines appears on the glazed surface, which time and frequent washing only serve to intensify. This is calle



A SQUARE MEAL AT A BOWERY LUNCH HOUSE,

The faces were ever the same. The young men gave evidence of occasional dissipation; the older men showed the anxious stare that comes from perpetual warfare against fate, and there was an air of floom about some that indicated a surrender in the struggle for a higher place. The boys who came in always patronized the pastry end of the menu to the utter exclusion of more solid food, while a half terrifled, half exultant look overspread their features, inticating very plainly that a spread of this sort was both forbidden and rare.

Toward night the lodging houses send out their



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Paddy Snap.

Colly.

Cory O'Moore.

Collin Adair.

o' bogie. by. The blue bird.

ight dowe. old maid.

termill

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visitors. From every quarter of the globe they come and from every race. A more motley set never go together. The average check was less than 10 cents. Down town on the West side is a great caravanuary that feeds more people than any other similar institution in this or any other country. There is no closing time. Three or four in the morning finds then crowded; later on the crowd thins only to swel again as regular breakfast hour approaches. Another it was a summary to the day. The utter self confidence he casy familiarity of the waiters in this place beggan description. "Gimme some corn off the many description." Gimme some corn of the many addressing the balance of the table generally, "any of youse fellows know the way to the suburbar track? I've never been there before." I suggested the bridge, another the boat, the third thought the waiter who had returned with the order, "are yeareally goin' to de races? I tought you was givin a steer. You're in great luck," and the man who was a steer. You're in great luck," and the man who was going to the races smiled a self complacent smile as a steer. You're in great luck," and the man who was going to the races smiled a self complacent smile as a few of the waiter looked at him admiringly. The slight delay suffered by the rest of us in order that the racing man might be waited on first was borne in a spirit becoming to men who were not so fortunately situated "So long," said the racing man as he rose to go, and a chorus of "ta-ta," "so long," see you later," etg. from the guests and waiter attested further the green as the racing man might be waited on first was borne in a spirit becomes first the supreme.

There is probably no more thoroughly typical New York restaurant, than the one of which I am now speaking. Every possible sort of man here finds his is received through the day is divided at night after the proprietors keep no books. What mai is step good but cheap. Roast beef 15 cents, some is received through the day is divided at night sit is the great oppula



A QUICK LUNCH AT A "STAND UP."

A QUICK LUNCH AT A "STAND UP."

Across the way from the resort is perhaps the mast expensive of all the down town dining places, the Cafe Savarin. It is a favorite resort for big insurance men, bankers, etc. Three gentlemen can lunch comfortably on a ten dollar bill, metaphorically speaking, but they will not by any means have make an elaborate meal. The service is good, the water polite and efficient, and the cuisine leaves but little to be desired. Across the street, at the top of the Equitable Building, is the Lawyers Club, which entertains many guests between one and three. The usual club schedule is in force, and undoubtedly som advantages are enjoyed not possible at a public restaurant. The Mills Building in Wall St. has also a similar affair, only this is open to the general public, and the prices are more adapted to miscellameous patronage. English Chop houses dot the intervening space between Wall Street and the Produce Exchange, besides several German and Italian places that enjoy the oustom of tobacce importers and the export trade. Delmonico's down town establishment draw from the three great exchanges besides Wall Street, and keeps away the common herd by its extravagant prices. Like the up-town establishment its customers are mainly millionaires.

At night, the down town resorts are deserted and the great Table D'hote restaurants to which I have referred commence operations. The dining-rooms of Delmonico's on 5th Ave. and 26th St. present a second foliage does much to enhance the patromage of the dining-rooms, and all the Clubs are in full swigs. The New York by gaslight at dinner time is an interesting sight and well worth a visit.



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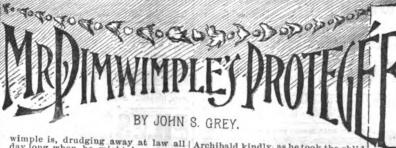
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The second secon

APRIL, 1892



came upon a young child crying bitterly."



wimple is, drudging away at law all day long when he might be enjoying a life of pleasurable ease!"

They did not know that "pleasurable ease" in young Pimwimple's lexicon meant criminal laziness. He had more respect for the hod carrier than for the idle dude who declares he has "no need to work." His theory was that the man who would not work having health and strength, had no business on the earth.

Mr. Pimwimple was a bachelor, and that is why he was so much berated by the society matrons who had marriageable daughters in whom the great lawyer failed to show the slightest interest. His indifference to feminine charms was attributed to lack of good taste by the general run of the fair sex, but there were a few solid headed clubmen—close friends of Archibald's—who used to say that he would certainly marry when he found the right kind of party. But they knew him well enough to feel sure that no fashionable butterfly would, or could, ever win him.

Archibald Pimwimple was a strictly temperate and highly moral man. When not at business he could be found at home in his library or in the reading room of his favorite club. Balls, parties, theatres, receptions had no charms whatever for him; he thought them all waste of time. He subscribed liberally to all worthy public charities, but his private acts of benevolence far exceeded those done in public. If he had one hobby in life outside his business, it was practical charity, and he would often say to himself, "Of what use is my wealth except to help me to do good to my fellow-creatures?"

His mother had died two years before he lost his father, and the old lady who kept house for him now, was a very distant rela-

His mother had died two years before he lost his father, and the old lady who kept house for him now, was a very distant relative on his mother's side. The household staff consisted of a female servant and a butler, who also acted as valet to Mr. Pimwimple.

wimple.

One night in the early eightys Mr. Pimwimple was walking homeward from the elevated station nearest to his house. It had commenced to rain, but the lawyer was so deeply immersed in thought that he was apparently oblivious of the fact that he was getting drenched. As he turned the corner of his own street, however, he came upon a young child crying bitterly. She was a girl about four or five, and was fairly well dressed but evidently in deep distress.

"What is the matter, little one?" asked "What is the matter, little one?" asked

Archibald kindly, as he took the chlid by the hand.

"I's—I's—Ios—lost!" sobbed the little girl, looking up wistfully into Mr. Pimwimple's face as if hoping to find her home therein.

"Tell me where you live," said the lawyer sympathetically.
"I—don't—know!" drawled out the little one between her tears.
"Well, who's little girl are you?"
"I's Waggles' girl!"
"Waggles?"
"Yeth, Tham Waggles' girl."
Half the people around that neighborhood were Mr. Pimwimple's tenants, but Sam Waggles was an entrely new name to him. But the rain was now pouring in torrents and the street was no place for deliberation.
"Come along with me, little girl," said Archibald impulsively, as he lifted her in his arms. "My house is only half a block away, and then you can tell us all about it in a warm room, and we will try to find your father for you bye and bye."
When the stately butler opened the door for Mr. Pimwimple a few seconds later. he was astounded to find his master with a crying child in his arms.

"Send Mrs. Mayweather to the library at once," said Archibald, as he passed by the astonished servant and walked up the richly carpeted stairs with his still sobbing burden, whom he deposited on an arm chair in his comfortable study.

In less than two minutes Mrs. Mayweather, the housekeeper, tapped at the door, and receiving permission to enter, came into the room.

"Mercy on us, Archie!" she cried in amazement. "Whose child is that:"

the housekeeper, tapped at the door, and receiving permission to enter, came into the room.

"Mercy on us, Archie!" she cried in amazement. "Whose child is that?"

"Waggles!"

"What Waggles?"

"And who is he?"

"I haven't the slightest idea, but this little one will tell us as soon as she stops crying. Now my dear, let this lady take off your wet things and give you ac cup of hot tea, and then, when you feel quite warm and rested, you can tell us how you came to get lost. Don't be afraid now, we'll find Sam Waggles for you by and bye."

"Oh please don't!" said the child piteously, as her tears commenced to flow afresh. "I don't want Waggles any more—he beat me, and he'll beat me again if he catches me. I—I ran away from him!"

"You ran away!" breathlessly exclaimed Mr. Pimwimple and Mrs. Mayweather simultaneously.



I will let you know in the course of a year

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"Ye—yes," answered the child tearfully, "Waggles used to beat me so when I told the people who I was!"
"Well who are you?"
"Emily."
"And who is Waggles?"
"I don't know, he took me away from my Mama ever so long ago—more than a week I guess. An' he said he'd kill me if I didn't tell everybody I was his little girl."
Archibald looked at Mrs. Mayweather and shook his head.
"Here is a mystery," he said dubiously



ILLUSTRATION.



She kissed her daughter-in-law:

"Instead of a lost child, she is a runaway! Well, take her and put her to bed and dry her clothes. Give her what she wants to eat and drink, and tomorrow morning I'll see what can be done for her."

When he had changed his outer clothing and partaken of supper downstairs, Archibald returned to the library, and seated himself at his desk. He tried to write but he could not, his mind kept running altogether to the little child upstairs. Finally he went to his overeoat pocket, and took out a brief, which was only handed to him that evening, and which he had not had time to glance at. If he could not write, at all events he could read, and study up the case before going down town next morning. As he opened the document the endorsement met his gaze—"Curtin vs Curtin and Curtin." The name was familiar at once, and conjured up before him the sweet countenance of a fair young widow whose case had been explained to him by his friend Charlie Gilbert, who also had introduced the widow to him. He it was, likewise, who had just put this case in his hands, but he knew it all without reading the brief.

Mary Curtin, the young widow alluded to, had married half a dozen years ago into a rich family, much had against the wish of the latter, In fact the son, George, had been disowned by the Curtins on account of his alleged misalliance. So embittered were his people against him and his wife that they would not see or visit them on any pretence, and even when a little girl was born to them and George had written to his father begging a small loan, the letter was returned to him without comment. Two years later the elder Curtin died suddenly, and George was notified by his brothers that he was not expected or required to attend the funeral. Nevertheless he did so, and pledged his watch in order to hire a carriage for himself, wife and little child to go in. His two brothers and younger sister ignored them, the mother was the only one who gave them any sort of a welcome. She kissed her daughter-in-law and he little girl, and told Ge

Commencing the paragraph again he read:

The evidence of Jane Shaw.—"Was servant in the family of Mr. Joseph Curtin for eight years. Since Mr. Curtin's death and up to time of my discharge in August last, was Mrs. Curtin's nurse. I remember the 26th of July last. Was ordered to read aloud a codicil which Mrs. Margaret Curtin had just written on the back of her will. Was ordered by my mistress to do this. Then, at her request I brought up Samuel Waggles the gardener, who also read this codicil. Then my mistress signed her name thereto, and Samuel Waggles and myself wrote our names as witnesses. I never saw Samuel Waggles but once afterwards. He disappeared from the house the next day. The codicil was to the effect that my mistress left \$10,000 and all her jewelry to Emily, her granddaughter, whose father and mother she had been estranged from through family differences."

Archibald put down the document gently, put his

whose father and mother she had been estranged from through family differences."

Archibald put down the document gently, put his left hand into his right and shook it heartily.

"I am proud to shake hands with myself," he said audibly, "unless the Curtin case is already won, and indeed, unless it is settled out of court, I am no law-yer." Then he looked out of the window to see how the weather was. In another minute he was in the hall calling, "Marjorie! Marjorie!" Mrs. Mayweather came rapudly in response to his call.

"Where is your charge?" he asked hurriedly, "the little girl I brought home with me?"

"In my room Archibald,,' she answered, "why?"

"Is she asleep?"

"No, we were just talking—"

"Well I want to see her a moment, lead the way!"

Mrs. Mayweather was somewhat surprised at Archibald's manner, but nevertheless proceeded towards her bedroom on the next floor. Little Emily was sitting up in bed, and looking over the housekeeper's album.

"Now little one," commenced Mr. Pimwimple, as he sat beside the bed and stroked the little girl's head. "You told us your name was Emily—Emily what?"

"Emily Curtin," replied the child promptly.

he sat beside the bed and stroked the little girl's head. "You told us your name was Emily—Emily what?"

"Emily Curtin," replied the child promptly.

"Just so," continued Archibald with a smile, "and how long have you lost your mama—about how many nights do you think you have been away from her?"

The child paused to consider.

"One—two—free nights!" she said, slowly.

"I think she is counting to-night," said Mrs. Mayweather, "for she told me a few minutes ago that she lost her mama in the Park on Sunday afternoon, and that this Waggles came to her and said he would take her to mama, but took her to his own house instead, and beat her until she promised to say she was his child. She has some sort of a legal document here," and the housekeeper took a paper from the dressing table and handed it to Archibald.

One glance at the paper was sufficient for Archibald. "Where did you get this?" he asked the child. "At Waggles' house," replied Emily seriously, and in a whisper, "Yesterday he gave me something nasty to drink and it made my heart burn. And when I told him this morning that it made my heart burn he took that paper from his pocket and said, "Here is something would do your heart good if you only knew what it was." He was drunk and he always is. But I watched him put the paper behind a picture, and when he had gone out again I got it, and put it over my heart, but it didn't do it any good at all!"

"But it will do, bye and bye little girl, take my word for that," cried the lawyer in eestasy. "Now Marjorie, just try to keep the little girl awake for an hour and I will bring her mother here."

"On byou know her then, Archie?" inquired Marjorie.

"Yes—by accident," he replied hastily. "Now I am off, and will be back with her mother in an hour."

"Do you know her then, Archief inquired and jorie.
"Yes.—by accident," he replied hastily. "Now I am off, and will be back with her mother in an hour."
Half a mile away in a dingy room in a dingy street, that poor young widow sat rocking herself to and fro in her lonely misery. It was a cruel blow when George lost the means of making a living for them by sickness; it was still more cruel when he was taken from her altogether, but it was bitterly cruel when her only child, her only hope, was stolen from her,

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Augusta, Me.



for stolen she knew she had been. The police had been notified without avail, at the bouses of friends and everywhere she had searched, but in vain. When a ring came to the bell, she started up in joy, hoping that it was Emily or some tidings of her, but also it was only the lawyer Mr. Gilbert had engaged for her—the famous Archie Pimwimple.

"Mrs. Curtin, unless I am mistaken," he said gaily, as she opened the door, "Now just come inside I want to talk to you for a few seconds only and then I shall have to ask you to accompany me. Ah, now I can see you in the light! You have been crying and I don't wonder. But just dry your tears, little Emily is all right at my house."

"Emily! How? where? Oh, thank God!" cried the lady as she clasped her hands, and seated herself. "Where did you find her?"

"She found herself. I don't know how, but I happened to meet her by accident, and took her home. I'm glad I did! My carriage is at the door and will take you directly to her. I have to go to Inspector Byrnes' and may be detained an hour or so, but my housekeeper is expecting you so you had better go at once. I shall have more news to tell you when I return."

Archie saw the agitated woman into his carriage, told the driver to turn her over to Marjorie and then took the Third Avenue elevated cars down to police headquarters, where he was well known and highly respected. Two minutes after his entry a couple of detectives left in a hack, in quest of Sam Waggles, who was "bagged" and brought to headquarters in bribed to steal and bertoy the document and leave the house. He had decided not to destroy the will alt he last moment. When Jane Shaw was approached however, she declined to accept any bribe, or be a party to the conspiracy to keep the child out of what was hers by right, hence her discharge. Waggles also admitted that when it became known that Jane Shaw was giving evidence on the opposite side, he was again bribed by the Curtin Brothers to steal the child, hoping thus to obtain the mother's resignation of all claims i

trouble."
"Well, I will let you know what I require as a feek
the course of a year," gallantly responded Archie.

P. S. by the author: Judging from this "clipping" the fee was paid in

full.

On Monday, at the Church of the Strangers by the Rev. C. Tieboth, Emily Curtin, widow of the late Geo. Curtin, to Archibald Pimwimple of this city. No cards.

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What a lovely, sunshiny day this is, Sister Bee! warm as summer, and such a clear blue sky. We shall have a full meeting to-day, surely. Yes, here they come from all directions; but what are they going to do with all those umbrellas?

"Why, it is April, Busy Bee, don't you know?" says the foremost one; "and 'the wise man takes his umbrella when the sun shines' in this capricious month. It may rain in torrents before we get home again."

The weather is a trifle uncertain, I admit, still it does seem as if it never looked less like rain than now. But come in, come in! how inhospitable of me to keep you standing on the doorstep. Never mind about taking off your rubbers, I have not cleaned the Hive yet, and a little mud will not hurt anything. Queen Bee and I do not believe in cleaning house until it is "settled weather."

"I have come prepared to scold," says Rosalie Wynne. "At the last meeting we did not have any crocheting or knitting at all, and I think it was too bad. I wanted to learn some pretty new edging patterns, for that is all the kind of fancy work that I care anything about."

"I felt a little disappointed myself," replies Mrs. H. D. Ellis of Grand Rapids, Mich; "but then I enjoyed that talk Busy Bee gave us about pillows, and have since made some very pretty ones for my own home from ideas, which she suggested. I have brought some edging patterns myself this time, and hope the sisters will like them; I think this

PAN LACE
is especially pretty.

FAN LACE

FAN LACE
is especially pretty.
Chain 20. (No. 40 thread.)
1st row.—4 dc in 4 st, ch 4, 1 dc in same st, (skip 4, 4 dc in 5th st, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 3 times, making 4 holes and 4 clusters, ch 3, turn.
2d row.—3 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same, (4 dc in next 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 3 times, ch 3, turn.

turn.
3d row.—(4 dc in ch 4, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4
times, ch 4, fasten with sc between last 2 dc, ch

times, ch 4, fasten with sc between last 2 dc, ch 3, turn.

4th row.—17 dc under 4 ch, ch 1, (4 dc in 4 ch, ch 3, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 4, turn.

5th row.—(4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 1, 1 dc in 1 ch, skip 1 dc, (ch 1, 1 dc in 2d dc) 8 times, ch 3, turn.

6th row.—1 dc under 1 ch, (2 dc under next 2 ch) 8 times, ch 1, (4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 3, turn.

7th row.—(4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 1, 1 dc in 1 ch, (1 dc in dc, 1 dc between 2d and 3d dc) 9 times, ch 3, turn.

8th row.—1 dc between 1st and 2d dc, (ch 1, 1 dc between next 2 dc) 18 times, ch 1, (4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 1, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 3, turn.

9th row.—(4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 1, 1 dc in 1 ch, (ch 2, 1 dc in next 1 ch) 19 times, ch 3, turn.

19 times, ch 3, turn.
10th row.—3 dc under 1st 2ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same, (skip next 2ch, 4 dc in next 2ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same, (skip next 2ch, 4 dc in next 2ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 9 times, making 10 holes in scallop, skip 1 ch, 4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 3, turn.

ch 3, turn.

11th row.—Crochet same as last row around scalop, fasten last 4 ch with sc to 1st dc in cluster of 4 dc, ch 1, turn.

12th row.—10 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same ch, 4 dc in next 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same and so on to end of row, ch 3, turn.

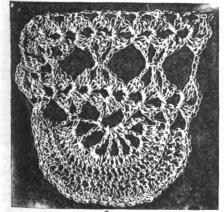
13th row.—Work around scallop same as before, fastening last 4 ch with sc in 1st of 10 dc, ch 1, turn.

16 th, turn.

14th row.—Same as 12th row, ch 3, turn.

15th row.—Same as 13th row, ch 1, turn.

16th row.—15 dc in 4 ch, sc in 1st of 4 dc, (10 dc in next 4 ch, sc in 1st of 4 dc) 9 times, making 10 scallops across bottom of large scallop, (4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times. This finishes 1st scallop, make the rest the same only fasten the 4 ch (to begin next scallop) with 1 dc instead of sc between 4 dc, and 1st small scallop ch 3, sc in 3d dc of scallop, then 17 dc same as 4th row, fasten 5th row with sc to 6th dc of scallop, the 7th row between 1st and 2d scallop, the 9th to middle of 2d scallop, the 11th row, before 9th to middle of 2d scallop, the 11th row, before making ch 1, to middle of 3d scallop.



HALF WHEEL LACE.

HALF WHEEL LACE.

Chain 9. (No. 30 thread.)

1st row.—(3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in 4th st, ch 4, (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in next 5th st, ch 5, turn.

2d row.—Shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, ch in 1st st of ch, ch 5, turn.

3d row.—Shell on shell, ch 2, catch under oth of 4 ch with sc, ch 2, shell on shell, ch 3, turn.

both of 4 ch with sc, ch 2, shell on shell, ch 3, tirn.

th row.—Shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, dc in 1st st of ch.

5th row.—Ch 3, shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, ch 3, turn.

6th row.—Shell on shell, ch 2, catch under both 4 ch with sc, ch 2, shell on shell, dc in 1st st of ch, ch 3, turn.

7th row.—Shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, tr, (thread over hook twice) in ch 3, ch 2, repeat 8 times more, sc in ch 3 of shell.

8th row.—Ch 3, 4 dc in each ch of 2, ch 2, shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, dc in 1st st of ch, ch 3, turn.

9th row.—Shell on shell, ch 2, catch under both 4 ch with sc, ch 2, shell on shell, sc in each of dc, (catching into back part of st), sc in 1st st of ch 3, ch 1, turn.

10th row.—Sc in each sc (in back part of st), turn at the end, ch 3, sc in 2d sc, ch 2, repeat to end, turn.

11th row.—Ch 5, sc in 5th st of ch 5, ch 1, sc in ch 2, repeat to end of scallop, ch 1, shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, dc in 1st st of ch; this completes one scallop. Fasten 1st and 2d picots of next scallop to the two last picots of preceding scallop.

These patterns are indeed beautiful, Mrs. Ellis; and to those of you who love to crochet, I will whisper a secret. Mrs. Frank Packard has promised to be here next month, and bring directions for a crocheted baby's sack, and some more edging. Now isn't that good news? I don't believe we shall hear any more grumbling now.

"Something for the knitters," did you say,

ing now.

"Something for the knitters," did you say,
Mrs. Limberger? Yes, it is only fair that they
should have their turn; did you bring something?

"I have soon several requests for a quilt

"I have seen several requests for a quilt stripe, and would like you all to try mine.

STRIPE FOR KNITTED QUILT.

Cast up 21 stitches, knit across plain. 1st row.—3 plain, 7 seam, 1 plain, 7 seam, 3

plain.
2d row.—4 plain, over, 5 plain, over, slip 1 st, narrow, pass slip st over, over, 5 plain, over, 4

plain.
3rd row.—3 plain, 17 seam, 3 plain.
4th row.—4 plain, over, 1 plain, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 plain, over, 1 seam, over, 1 plain, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 plain, over, 4

plain, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 plain, over, 4 plain.

5th row.—3 plain, 4 seam, 1 plain, 3 seam, 1 plain, 4 seam, 3 plain.

6th row.—4 plain, over, 1 plain, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 plain, over, 4 plain.

7th row.—3 plain, 4 seam, 1 plain, 2 seam, 1 plain, 2 seam, 1 plain, 4 seam, 3 plain.

8th row.—4 plain, over, 1 plain, over narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, over, 1 plain, over, 4 plain.

9th row.—3 plain, 5 seam, 1 plain, 1 seam, 1 p

Repeat from 1st row until desired length.

"I would like to see some directions for tatting given among the Bees," says Mrs. M. E.
Keene of Statesburgh, S. C. "And as I cannot understand the terms used in crocheting very well, will not some of the sisters exchange crochet samples with me for tatting patterns? I do a good deal of both."

Tatting is hard to describe, but I wish the Bees would bring directions for some pretty kind, with a sample. Now Cousin Kate, that isn't fair—what are you and the girls doing off in that corner? Just come out and show your work to us all. If you are making something pretty, we want to try it too.

"Well, we didn't care about the knitted quilt stripe, so I thought I would just be telling the girls how to make a few little things. Just now we were trying a

we were trying a

PANSY MAT.

Crochet with white single zephyr wool, 5 chain sts. Join these in a circle and crochet round and round in de till you have increased to 84 sts, making a circle about 6 inches in diameter, and taking care by suitable increasings to keep it flat as possible. The next row is worked with very dark green single zephyr in se all round, crocheting between instead of in each st. The next row is done in lemon-colored zephyr, working between every green stitch 4 dc sts. The last row is worked in shaded purple zephyr, getting that which has the darkest shades. Begin this row with one chain stitch, then 6 dc between the groups of 4 dc in the preceding row; then 1 ch and catch over in the middle of each yellow group. Repeat in this way all around, when finished the border of the matlooks like a full ruffle. Now take 5 of the purple shells, and join the 1st and 5th lightly underneath. Then skip 2 shells, take 5 more and proceed as before. This has the effect of a circle of pansies laid closely together. To make a larger mat, add 7 sts on the last white row for each additional pansy, additional pansy,

WHISK BROOM HOLDER.

Cover 2 pieces cardboard about 6 inches square, with red silesia. Then with macrame twine crochet a piece in shell st just large enough to cover it all over. Make a row of scallops top and bottom tie ribbon on the handle, and bows at the sides.

NARROW LACE.

NARROW LACE.

Cast on 8 stitches.

Ist row.—Knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow.

2d row.—Knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 2, purl 1, knit 5 rows plain.

8th row.—Bind off 3, knit the rest plain.

Repeat from 1st row.

Here is Wisconsin Blossom among us again: and what have you for us this time?
"Yes, as I was so kindly received before I ventured to come again with a few pretty trifles, which I hope will be of use to the Bees. Will hearin with

will begin with

A PEN WIPER.

Get a small Japanese fan (can get them for 3 cents at any store, cut leaves (a little smaller than the fan) of chamois skin, pink the edges and fasten at the back of fan. Gild the handle and tie a ribbon on the end.

TOILET BOTTLES. Cover any prettily shaped bottles with glue and sift sand over them; let dry then bronze or gild.

PHOTOGRAPH HOLDER. A wire toaster gilded and tied with a ribbon or cord, with the handle bent back for support, makes a pretty Christmas present.

makes a pretty Christmas present.

COLLAR AND CUFF BOXES.

Sand paper all lettering from a deep cigar box, line with plush or velvet, fasten a piece of good mirror on inside of cover with glue. Cut a piece of velvet or plush just the size of cover, cut from center a piece not quite so large as mirror; make a diagonal cut in each corner of this frame of velvet, turn the edges in and stitch with silk. Glue this in place as frame for mirror on lid. Paint delicate spray of flowers on the outside or oil thoroughly, ebonize, or bronze. The long shallow ones make collar or handkerchief boxes and the deep ones for cuffs. for cuffs.

collar or handkerchief boxes and the deep ones for cuffs.

But who is this at the door? Come in, sister worker, do not stand outside. Why, it is Mrs. Mullikin of Frankfort, Ind.

"May I come in, Bees? I want to tell you how I made a pretty

RUG.

If you are as well pleased with your work as I was, you will not begrudge the time. Take the best cloth out of worn men's clothes, cut out 96 pieces about the size of the top of a tumbler, 48 of which are of light cloth and 48 of dark. Cut same number small pieces, about 1-3 as large as first, half dark and half light. Buttonhole all with fancy colored worsted. Then place a small light piece in the centre of large dark piece and vice versa, fastening them with cross stitch. Place on orange colored calico in shape of six point star. To fill out corners, take white worked with red, red center piece. Bind edge with red.

Will some one tell me how to prepare the bisque and make the bisque flowers for stand throws? if flowers are made in moulds, where can they be obtained?

Laura F. wants directions for a knitted or grocheted purse; can some Bee tell her next

can they be obtained?

Laura F. wants directions for a knitted or crocheted purse; can some Bee tell her next time?

Oh, must you go so soon? Surely it is not late enough in the afternoon to be so dark—why, where is our beautiful sunshiny day? I declare, it rains like a mill-race coming down. Your umbrellas will be needed sure enough, and you were wise to bring them. Good-bye, a full meeting next time!

Contributions solicited for this department.

Contributions solicited for this department. Please write on one side of paper only, and accompany directions for edging with a sample. I cannot answer private letters, or give addresses. Address all letters to

Busy Bee, (Care of Comfort Pub. Co.)

HOW TO MAKE A START IN LIFE.

Dear Readers:—It would be easy for young people to start successfully if they could only borrow the experience of old people. After working hard for forty years and trying seven different occupations, I am still obliged to work. I read of money being made plating watches, jewelry and tableware. I bought a machine for \$5 from H. F. Delno & Co. of Columbus, Ohio. It plates gold, silver or nickel on all kinds of metal. I made \$3 the first day, \$21 the first week and if I don't grow old too fast I'll make a stake yet.

A PIONEER.





To introduce them, one in every County or town fur-nished reliable persons (either sex) who will promise to show it. Excelsior Music Box Co., Box 2128, N.Y. City.

MENTION THIS PAPER WHEN YOU WRITE THINK



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Father and son were alone

THE FLIGHT OF RICHARD BERING.

BY MCKENDREE BANGS

SYNOPSIS.

One Fall evening Michael Bering started to call upon his brother Richard. When near the house, saw his nephew leave suddenly and run southward. Michael was puzzled and followed his nephew, but lost sight of him, changed his mind about his call, thinking his brother and son had been quarrelling and he retraced his steps to his apartments on upper Fifth Avenue. His brother had been murdered, and he was very soon summoned to go to the house. When he arrived all was confusion. Safe open, contents rifled. A large amount of money remained in one compartment of the safe. Mary Irving, Richard Bering's ward was there mourning bitterly the loss of her friend and the absence of her lover, Richard junior. The son is suspected of committing the murder, but Mary remains faithful in her belief that he is innocent and will return. Michael Bering is not held in very high esteem by Mary, and she avoids him in every possible way, although some interviews are necessary. Richard Bering's will leaves his immense property to his son and Mary Irving, and should the son die first Mary is to inherit the whole, and Michael and Richard the son, are appointed joint executors. In the absence of Richard Junior, Michael prepares to qualify alone, and detectives are busily engaged in hunting for the missing man.

CHAPTER II.

THE QUARREL.

THE QUARREL.

It was in the library of the old house near Washington Square earlier in the evening on which Richard Bering met his death. The old gentleman was very fond of the house in which he had lived for many years, and of its surroundings. He had steadfastly resisted the many times repeated requests of his son Richard Junior and of his ward Mary Irving that they move to a more fashionable or more select part of the city. In his determination to remain where he was he was strengthened and upheld by the arguments of his younger brother Michael who for some reason, never clearly apparent, wished his brother to remain down town.

"You are right, Richard." Michael would say.

was he was strengthened and upheld by the arguments of his younger brother Michael who for some reason, never clearly apparent, wished his brother to remain down town.

"You are right, Richard." Michael would say. "You are much better off here, and." he would continue, turning sometimes to Mary Irving and sometimes to his nephew, "if the neighborhood is good for such people," and he would point with a comprehensive gesture to the northward of the square, "it is good enough for us, for you."

"Very good," answered Richard junior, between whom and his uncle there was little love lost, "Very good," but you find it pleasant to live where you do."

"It merely happens that I am there. I don't care. I'd just as lief have my rooms anywhere hereabouts." Young Richard was about to reply and it was plain from bis manner that he was exceedingly angry; but bis father, alone among those who had known Michael Bering long, did not distrust him, stopped him. He himself was irascible and quick tempered enough, and if there was a quarrel about he was more than willing to take his share of it.

"Stop," he said, "why do you quarrel over what I shall do? Do you suppose I am willing to be a bone for you puppies to grow! over?"

The old man's face flushed quickly under his gray hair, and the others discreetly discontinued the discussion; but the young man was a little unwilling to. "Father," he said, "Uncle Michael—"

Michael Bering interrupted him at once. "Richard," he said to his brother, "how many times have I asked that Junior here shall not be permitted to call me "Uncle?" I won't be called 'Uncle' by any chap as old as he is. I won't be made to seem so old."

"Well, you are his uncle and he shall call you so if he places for all to are."

But young Richard did as he usually did when disputes of this sort became unpleasantly heated, he left the room. He was high-spirited enough; but he tried as much as he could to avoid any quarrel with his father, and this was greatly to his credit.

Now on this day father and son were alone to



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himself so thoroughly in check that there was no manifestation of his intense feeling. He went on

manifestation of his intense feeling. He went on directly:

"It must be because I am your son."

"Richard Bering must have seen the humor in this rather than its cool insolence, for he stopped his rather than its cool insolence, for he stopped his rangry walk and quietly seated himself.

"Remember, father," his son continued, "remember, that this is the most important matter of my life."

Mr. Bering sat quietly and practically subbad his

Mr. Bering sat quietly and musingly rubbed his chin with his hand. Some enjoyable recollections must have come to him for he smiled pleasantly; but he looked rather vacantly at his son. Presently he recovered himself and he seemed to shake himself together as he settled down quietly in his chair. "Yes," he said, "oh, important? I dare say it is, well?

he looked rather vacantly at his son. Frescus, recovered himself and he seemed to shake himself together as he settled down quietly in his chair.

"Yees," he said, "oh, important? I dare say it is, well?

Richard was embarrassed by this sudden change in the old gentleman's manner, and by this quiet request to go on with what he might have to say.

"Well, father," he went on shortly, "is there need to say much more? I love Mary and I want your permission to ask her to marry me:"

"You cannot have it," Mr. Bering replied in a quiet way quite unlike him. His anger seemed to have spent itself with its earlier outbreak.

"But father—"

"You cannot have it. That was what you wanted to know was it not?"

Then some consciousness that perhaps, after all, he did owe his son some consideration seemed to come to him, for he went on to explain, and explanations he rarely troubled himself to make.

"Now, Junior, this is the way I see this. Mary is my ward—"

"Yes, father," Richard junior said as the old gentleman paused.

"Well, I needed no assent to that. I asked no question. Now don't interrupt me. She is my ward; her father was my dearest friend. I shall do my best for her."

"I am sure, sir, I want you to do your best for her; but I want you to believe that your best is to let her marry me."

"I won't say anything against you. You are a pretty good fellow except that you will lose your temper; a pretty good fellow as young men run now-adays. Yes, I rather think you suit me. You are studious. You will make a name; but why couldn't you choose to be a doctor as I wanted you to be. I hat the law. I suppose you chose the law because I preferred medicine. Then you will have plenty of money. Really, my boy, I haven't a word to say against you," and he patted the young man on the back in a very unusual burst of good fellowship.

"Then you mean to bid us go ahead, and to wish us good luck, sir?" the young man asked eagerly.

"No. I do not," his father responded snappishly.
"I do not mean anything of the sort. Does it follow that



Nobody knows, I do not, he does not.

"But she loves me, as I do her."

"What?" bellowed the old man. "Have you dared to talk of love to her before speaking to me? You—you rascal I—"
But at this moment Richard junior fied the room in anger and annoyance, closing the door sharply after him. He heard his father call him, but he was too angry then to be at once obedient.

He stood in the hall for a few minutes doubtful whether he had better seek to cool his anger in the dusky streets or go at once to his own room. But as he stood there, irresolute, he heard Mary Irving call to him in a low tone from the upper floor.

"Richard," she said, "please come up, quickly."

"Why, Mary, I thought you must have gone to bed," he answered as he hastily ran up the stairs.

"It is not late yet. But where have you been ever since dinner? I had the lamp in the sitting-room all fixed for you. And then I heard the door of the library slam. You have not been quarreling?"

"Well, Mary," he began.

"But you know, Richard, it is not right—with your father."

"But, Mary, let me have a chance—I haven't quar-

"But you know, hickard, it is also a father."
"But, Mary, let me have a chance—I haven't quarreled any. He did it all."
"Oh, how could he?"
"I hardly know; but he always does," Richard replied somewhat ruefully,
Mary laughed a little, but she went over to where Richard sat and putting her arms about his neck, she said:

said:
"We must not abuse the good old man, or be angry
with him. He and I never quarrel, you know."
"That is not fair to me, Mary. Who could quarrel
with you?"
"Thank you, Dick. No one does I believe. "Thank you, Dick. No one does I believe. But what was it all about? Tell me."

"You—and me."

"Oh, Richard! You asked him alone? I thought
we were to do it together. You dear, good, foolish
fellow! Well?"

fellow! Well?"
"He does not approve. He distinctly disapproves."
"Well, my darling, we must be patient. Think,
nichard, the time will come when we shall be together in our own home forever. This is pleasant;
but our own home, think of it! Am I not worth
waiting for? Tell me.
"Worth waiting for?" he asked. "You are worth
doing anything for. But, sweetheart, it doesn't make
it any easier to do without you to think of how good
you are."

you are."
"I know, I know; but it may not be for long. But why? Does he not approve of me?" she asked archly.
"Of course he does. I did not ask him that. And he seems to approve of me too?"
"What is it then?"
"Oh, he always takes some other man's part, you know."

"What is it tien!"
"Oh, he always takes some other man's part, you know."
"But whose is he taking now?"
"Nobody knows. I do not—he does not. But as nearly as I can make out he will not be willing that I should have you until you have seen and known a lot of men. He thinks you ought to have a choice, and not take the first who offers."
"Its that—did he say that? Now, I am angry at your father. Does he think that I can change? We know better, we know what our love means and how safe and sure it is, do we not Bichard?"
"Yes, my darling, and we know, too, that it will last for all time and forever," he answered as he kissed her good night.
"It will not be so hard to wait—and Richard," she added mischievonsly as he was about to close the door, "is he going to bring these men here? or, must we seek them? These men I must choose from among."

[CONTINUED IN MAY No.]



(These papers commenced in "Comfort" for September 1891. Back numbers can be had at any time.)

(These papers commenced in "Comfort" for September 1891. Back numbers can be had at any time.)

The ridiculous figure cut by Maria Jagger at the last meeting of the club, when, after valiantly asserting her intention of maintaining the independence of her sex against mankind in general, and her husband in particular, she ignominiously retreated from her position the moment her husband spoke to her, set the rest of the members thinking whether it was not likely that many of their number were similarly constituted. It was one thing to deery the male sex and its shortcomings when they were in conference together—it was quite a different affair when in the presence of their lords and masters.

Nobody had been more consistently resentful against man and his assumption of authority over woman than Mrs. Jagger. She was regarded as the most advanced champion of women's rights, she was always the loudest in her denunciation of the tyranny of the male species. Was it not therefore possible, even probable, that the majority of the most clamorous against husband-rule, were, in the privacy of their own homes, veritable slaves to their partners?

This conviction rooted itself so deeply into the minds of the younger and unmarried members of the Tattleback Tes Table Club that their faith in the leading principles of their association became considerably shaken after the Jagger episode.

The young ladies had many talks among themselves during the month. Miss Wing, Miss Hayrick, Miss Rubenstein and others held several surreptitious meetings and a revolutionary movement was started with the object of discountenancing any further attacks that might be made against the gentlemen.

When you come to think of it, there is a great difficulty in inducing young and marriageable girls to think harsh things about the men. No matter how had a fellow may be, if he is handsome the girls have an excuse ready for him. So it was really not surprising that the repeated and violent attacks on the sterner sex by their elders at the club, disgusted

tionary style.

There was quite a commotion in the club room at the next meeting, when, after the usual routine of business had been transacted, Miss Wing rose and made a motion "to exclude from future debates in the club, all subjects in the ventilation, or discussion of which, it became necessary for any lady to abuse the men."

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We KNOW that



IS THIS WHAT AILS YOU?

ilons, which, it you nouse, which in, no matter now you may be. Few have suffered from these causes it than I, and fewer still at my age (53) are in more behalth than I am now. The same means will cure you have the same means will be same means will GEO. N. STODDARD, Druggist, Buffalo, N. Y.

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A \$10,000 Loss turned to your Gain.

CHOICEST FLOWER SEEDS come from France and Germany; some rare varieties often bringing a dollar for a single seed. A large importing house had an immense shipment of the finest growing the following at the pier, an awful accident of the finest growing the following at the pier, an awful accident occurred. Now, as each kind must be put up in small, separate papers, this would save the pout to the put up in small, separate papers, this would save the pout to the put up in small, separate papers, this would save the put up in small, separate papers, this would save the pout up in small, separate papers, this would save the put up in swell sever grown. We have the put up in legant packets, containing over them up in elegant packets, containing over them in a box, and when they get large enough to transplant, you can set them out, and have a most elegant flower garden for nothing, and in the Summer and Fall can pluck beautiful bouquets of Pansies, Petunias, Asters, as well as the many rare flowers here shown.

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the lot all safe, we are going to enclose one package of this popular

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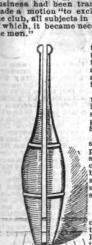
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Miss Hayrick, in seconding the motion, said that she thought this antagonism to the male sex was ridiculous and unwomanly, and, she also believed very hypocrit-

also believed very hypocritical.

Several of the elder ladies were on their feet in an instant, and all wished to speak at once, but Dorothy's gavel soon restored order. She spoke herself.
"I am almost dumb," she said, "at the astounding proposition made by our worthy secretary. One of the principal objects of the club habeen to maintain our rights as women, and curtail the authority of the men. To succeed we must be united.

can effect nothing, and I trust that both Miss Wing and Miss Hayrick will wisely withdraw that absurd motion at once, and let us proceed to some common sense business!"

But the two young ladies named did nothing of the kind. On the contrary they insisted on their motion being discussed or put to the meeting as to its adoption or rejection. Dorothy smillingly complied with this request and took a vote on the resolution then and there. But to her intense astonishment and disgust, and the horror of the men haters present, the motion was carried by a vote of 61 to 27!

When the numbers became known, Dorothy turned very pale, and in a low voice announced her intention of resigning from the presidentship. This information was received in silence, which was broken by Mrs. Pullet, who also tendered her resignation as vice-president. She said that if the fundamental principle of the club was going to be abolished, she saw no reason whyshe should remain in office any longer.

Mrs. Jones said that if there was going to be a split.

ished, she saw no reason why she should remain in office any longer.

Mrs. Jones said that if there was going to be a split in the association, she would be compelled to adhere to her colleagues, and if these resignations were to be accepted, hers must be taken also.

A vote on the resignations showed exactly the same proportion of members for accepting them, and Dorothy, Maria and Selina vacated their places of honor with a great display of injured dignity.

Miss Finnigan almost immediately proposed Miss Wing to succeed Mrs. Cripps as President, and the tumultous cheering among the young people showed this to be a popular nomination. The show of hands was enough without taking a vote, so Miss Wing complacently took the chair just vacated by Dorothy. She then named Miss Hayrick as vice-president to

She then named Miss Hayrick as vice-president to succeed Mrs. Pullet, and as no other candidate was named she was declared elected. Nellie Tabbs and Miss Rubenstein were respectively chosen as secretary and treasurer.

Miss Rubenstein were respectively chosen as secretary and treasurer.

Meanwhile the older women were seated sullenly together at the further end of the room. The whole thing had happened so suddenly and so unexpectedly that they could scarcely realize it yet as an actual fact. Dorothy's heart was full of bitterness and resentment. She was now sorry that she had resigned. It was her duty to have stuck to her post, not retreated from it. And here, after all her hard work, her tireless energy, her scheming and planning, she had lost all power in the club in a few minutes, and was now no more than an ordinary member in the organization she had founded. And, to make maters worse, the club was now in the hands of young and inexperienced girls, who hardly thought of anything else but dress and such frivolities!

And the fill will be the best of the section of the GOING TO WAIST

Miss Hayrick, who was received with wild cheering, said that there could be no doubt but what the club had heretofore been a kind of stumbling block in the way of a girl's matrimonial chances. The young fellows were afraid of having anything to do with young ladies who were members, because the club had gained an unenviable reputation as a school for 'women's rights' doctrines. Now, that sort of thing is all very well for old maids and cranky wives, but it is a great drawback to a young woman's future. Let us be more enlightened, more liberal minded. There isn't one among us has a hankering after being an old maid. And there are tots of young men nowadays whose efforts are going to waist, because girls—that is, good and sensible girls—are scarce. Let us show the male sex that we are worthy to be their equals and their wives, but we can do that without 'sitting on' the men, though a nice young fellow's knee isn't a bad place to sit when a girl is tired!" (laughter.)

knee isn't a bad place to sit when a girl is tired!" (laughter.)
"I believe," exclaimed Nellie Tabbs the new secretary, "I believe that this change is decidedly for the good of the club, and the benefit of the town, and for my part I should not care if the lately defeated President and her friends never returned to the club at all. Their ideas are too rigid for us girls, and if I—"
"Begorrah Miss Wing, I have it!" shouted Bridget suddenly, as she leaped to her feet excitedly. "I have it, as shure as you're born!"
"Have what Bridget—the grip?" asked one.
"Measles, Miss Finnigan?" interrogated another.
"Nayther, if you please!" replied Bridget with a smile. "But I have an idea that bates the divil himself!"

"Nayther, if you please!" replied Bridget with a smile. "But I have an idea that bates the divil himself!"

"Well, what is it, Bridget? let us hear it," said Miss Wing impatiently.

"We've bin schamin' and striving for the lasht six months to close the dhrinking club up the shtreet," continued Bridget, "but even with the law on our side, the divil a ha'forth did we succeed. But bedad, I think'I know how to close that club up."

"Thry coaxin', not drivin'!"

"Thry coaxin', not drivin'!"

"What do you mean?"

"I mane that if the girls here would only make a practice of inviting the young fellows to this club for a dance or a jig, or a bit of fun, shure they'd desart the other place in crowds and it would bust up for want of customers. Give any dacent young man his ehoice of a pretty girl's company or a glass of whisky, and see how quick he'll grab a bould of her!"

"An excellent suggestion Bridget!" said Miss Wing, "and one worth experimenting upon. At any rate we will consider it before the next meeting, And now, Miss Finnigan, if we can depend upon your good offices for a cup of tea, and something to eat, we will adjourn to the supper room and talk about the latest Paris fashions!"

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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My DEAR FRIENDS:
Is not April, with its capricious sunshine and showers, a type of our changing life here below? And it there often seem to be more clouds than sunshine, it is the love of the all-wise Father who sends them, as He sends the raindrops on the flowers to make them bloom more brightly.

If this world were all sunshine, we should never wish for the home beyond, but always be content to stay here, out of sight of our Father's face.

"It hank Thee, Lord, that here our souls Though amply blest, Can never find, although they seek, A perfect rest; Nor ever shall, until they lean On Jesus' breast."

Here is a letter from one who, though afflicted, is

Here is a letter from one who, though afflicted, is still living in the sunshine.

Dear Annt Minerva and the many cousin readers of Coaroart—I wish you all a happy, pleasant goodmaning, with God's love and sunshine around you; but should any one of you feel the burden of this life heavy, then remember the dear Saviour's many promises to His children; one is, "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." I doubt not if we could see with a spiritual eye, how often we could see the angels smiling upon us and watching over us in our trails through this life. I live on the beautiful prairies in Nebraska, where there are more sunshiny days than a proposed the county of the county

Or gets what he wants when he wants it?
Or walks without stumbling? Or quenches his thirst
At one draught.
God means every man to be happy, be sure,
He sends us no sorrows that have not some cure.
Our duty down here is to do, not to know.
Live as though life were carnest, and life will be so."

W. E. ANTHONN, M.D., Providence, R. I.
In my own observation of invalids, I have proved
the truth of Dr. Anthony's words in regard to reading. Even those whose Christian life and faith were
most wonderfully sweet and strong, did not desire to
be always poring over religious literature, but liked
to have their minds diverted by a good work of
fiction, and their hearts cheered by some of the
world's merry-makers. God has given us these good
things to enjoy, the soul-stirring works of our great
novelists, the merry quips of our humorists (God
bless them! I believe they have saved many a soul
from despair); and I cannot see that we do Him any
special service by neglecting them for a constant
study of religious writings which are but human and
fallible after all. So that we do not neglect His
Word, I believe that He means for us to enjoy "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are pure,
whatsoever things are lovely," in the realm of books,
as everywhere else in His world.

"I want to sav a few words in regard to the letter of

Maria Johnson. I think it was very sensible, and those who condemn her are like Mr. Sampson in the story of 'Jack Bowdoin's Conversion,' egotistical and fanatical. Such people do more harm in visiting the sick, with their long drawn faces and funeral looks, than all the novels and light reading a sick person a 'Shut In' could read. If a person's mind is kept full of dying, they are pretty sure to die. Nothing like will power, and 'never give up the ship' has carried many a one through. Then keep their thoughts lively by a story or other ways, and their chances are far better for recovery. Let the fanatics rant, and others abuse, but I for one send her good cheer, and if I knew her choice of reading, as I have several good novels, and that she would like them, I would gladly send them to her. Cousin Maria, you have my best wishes. Your COMPORT cousin, B. K."

"Comforting little paper, you may tell your read-

"Comforting little paper, you may tell your readers that I like you very much, and think you grow better all the time, May I tell the dear 'Shut Ins' of a lesson I had regarding prayer with faith, by a little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little child? New Anderson of the work o

"Just as God leads me, I would go;
I would not ask to choose my way;
Content with what He will bestow,
Assured He will not let me stray.
So as He leads, my path I make,
And step by step I gladly take,
A child in Him confiding."

Dear Aunt:—Will you let me come in to this corner
and have a talk with the dear friends of your band?
I want to thank some unknown friend for the dollar
sent me. I feel more grateful than I can say, and also
to Aunt and the kind editor for printing my letters.
Comport is indeed a comfort to us poor weary ones.
In our column I shall look into the sick rooms, and
whisper the precious name of Jesus. Let us take
everything to Jesus in prayer, for He is pitiful and
full of tender mercy, and will help us bear our burden if we love and serve Him. When I first wrote to
Comport, I felt so sad and cast down. My health is
no better, yet I feel better, I get so many kind letters
and other tokens of love to cheer me. With love and
kind wishes to all. Mrs. S. A. Teague, Empire, Ky.
Blessings on the kind hearts who are thus cheering

Blessings on the kind hearts who are thus cheering these lonely lives! Only a kind letter-how easy that is to write!—or a little gift In His Name, but it may be a ray of sunshine to some suffering soul. More volunteers are wanted for this good work of sunshine making.

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Some kind irlenus have valeta.

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Miss F. Brown, Guelph, N. Y."

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A. Dwight Goza,

Hatchett Creek, Ala."

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Names of those necessing our neight various whethers, reading, etc.
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Mrs. E. Lee, Rogers, Benton Co., Ark.
Menia Leavens, Thompson, Ills.
Miss Bettle Pergrem, Olympia, Ky.
Mrs. Sallie B. Jones, Helms, Va.
Harrie Kinsey, Helms, Va. (a little "Shut In.")

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A Child's Love for a Doll.

A Child's Love for a Doll.

Did you ever notice the tender, motherly affection that a young girl displays for her first doll? And did it ever strike you as a curious evidence of instinct that a girl just out of the erafle will take naturally to a doll where a boy of the same age won't even look at one? It seems in accordance with the eternal fitness of things that a girl is born with the latent instincts of motherhood, and takes to a doll as naturally as a woman takes to her baby.

It does not make the slightest difference to the child whether her doll cost fifty dollars or fifteen cents. She has the same reverence for it, the same solicitude for its proper treatment, the same attention to pay to it. Whether it be clothed in rags or in purple and fine linen, whether it be made of wax, wood, china, leather or composition, the doll has the same love bestowed upon it.

And it is also noticeable that no amount of misfortune or ill luck that doll may experience can estrange the child's affection. If accident, or the ravages of time, deprive it of an arm, or leg, or both; if continual handling detaches the scalp and leaves the doll bad, trifles of that kind are not considered valid reasons for abadonment, but rather demand a larger share of sympathy and love from the doll's owner. Nay, we have even known an absolutely limbless trunk, headless at that, treasured in its folds of rags as a miser treasures his hoard, and regarded with the same pride that it evoked when in all the symmetry and beauty and youth of perfect dollhood!

Hardly a waking hour is spent without Dolly in the little one's arms, and wherever she drops asleep during the day the mimic baby can be found in her embrace. Then, when the sandman shakes his bag, as dusk is drooping, when the "Now I lay me" is lisped out, and the child is placed in her neat warm cot, one other occupant has to share her couch and slumbers—that dear, delightful, disreputable looking doll. But hold, modern invention is a law ay s making startling improvements and the latest thin



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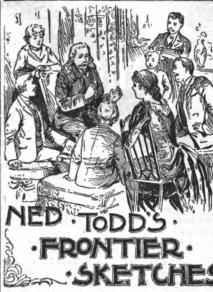
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Panorama Lenses to rend by, as fine kit's of print looks like great big letters under its scope. Fran. s is famous for making strong Lemaire lenses, such as used in our elevated adjustable panorama cabinets, and that nation cannot be outdone in the line of magnificent Magnifying Glasses and powerful telescopes. Twas only by an accident that while abroad we discovered the manufacturer, who also invented the wonderful machine. It is entirely new—We buy his whols stock imported into America. Dealing in so many imported goods as we have for the last dozen years, we are in a position to get hold of, and control, many brand-new inventions, that no other firm in the country can ever handle; we taking all that are made—some articles are bought by the millions, having so many people in this country and Canada (over 80 millions), whom we advertise to reach. Thousands of any one new popular article do not last any time at all. They go by the million.

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THE BENDERS.

THE BENDERS.

No jollier place could be found in Oklahoma City than the cosy sitting-room of the Sturgeon House during Ned Todd's stay in that city during this past winter, and I am sure no better story teller lives than Ned, who never has any trouble to surround himself with a party of listeners, each one eager to drink in all he has to say. And on this evening we find Jack Royal and Winnie Dawson side by side as usual, and there is Tom Morgan on the sofa half inclined to try to share the honors with Ned when Winnie quiets him very quickly by saying:

"Wait Mr. Morgan until Mr. Todd tells us about the Benders."

to share the honors with Ned when Winnie quiets him very quickly by saying:
"Wait Mr. Morgan until Mr. Todd tells us about the Benders,"
"Yes, yes the Benders, the Benders,"put in everybody. "Let us hear of them."
"Well, they were such a terrible gang that I doubt if Miss Winnie Dawson would care to hear of them," put in Ned Todd.
"Oh, yes, I like the terrible," said Winnie.
"How many were there of them in family?" Jack Royal asked.
"Well, there were four and a precious family they were indeed," said Ned Todd, who was filling his pipe once more. "I sometimes don't know which member of that family was worst, the old man John, Kate or her mother. I can't recount all their many adventures, so you will have to be content with but one or two. Let me see. Well, Dick Rhodes had an adventure which is about as good as any and I will tell that to you. You see Rhodes was a dashing cowboy and a pretty good looking fellow. He was daring as a llon, and being a very economical fellow had saved considerable money. He was going across the State of Kansas once and being belated came upon a large stone house which stood alone on the prairie. There was no other house within thirty miles and this house was the home of the Benders. It had been built by them for the purpose of making it a murderers den.

"A storm was coming on. Dense clouds overcast the skies and the winds rose and thunder rolled along the horizon. The house afforded the only shelter and Dick rode up to it and asked to be accommodated for the night. An old man came out and called to a young man, a low framed fellow, dark skinned and terrible as his father. On entering Dick saw a tall, dark skinned girl about twenty years old. She gazed at him somewhat strangely and after a few moments left the room.

"These people seemed very grum and no one talked save the old man and he merely answered questions, sitting for most of the time in a corner smoking his pipe with his eyes on the floor. Once Dick saw the old man and he merely answered questions.

curtain which partitioned off the front room from the kitchen.

"At last supper was announced and he went into it, passing through the curtain. An axe sitting in the kitchen leaning against the wall for some reason unknown to Dick attracted his attention. He could not but shudder at sight of that terrible axe which was of enormous size.

"The girl who was called Kate waited on him, and while the old folks were in the front room and her brother who was called John was out of the house she said in a whisper:

""Don't stay here."

""Who't stay here."

""Who are you?"

"Kate Bender."

"Then she pointed to the curtain and to the axe and whispered:

""Then you go to the other room you'll be asked to

"This is the Benders' nouse."
"Who are you?"
"Kate Bender."
"Then she pointed to the curtain and to the axe and whispered:
"When she pointed to the curtain. John will be on this side with the axe and he will see you through it. He will strike you on the head, you'll be robbed and put into the grave in the garden."
"Well, Dick Rhodes was not a coward, but he says he felt his blood run cold. He finished his supper though and went into the other room.
"As Kate had predicted a chair against the curtain was ready for him and the old man asked him to sit down. But Dick didn't do it. He had his levolvers at his belt, and was strongly tempted two or three times to pull one and kill the old man.
"Take this chair,' said old Bender.
"Do sit down there yourself, I would rather stand."
"A candle was burning in the front part of the curtain and all was dark behind. While Dick was still undecided what to do and actually trembling in his boots, he heard a shriek from behind the curtain. "Tearing it away he saw John Bender choking his sister Kate. The axe lay at his feet.
"Wo tyer doin' that for, John?' cried the old man.
"She told 'im, she told 'im,' John cried. 'I see her tell 'im.'

The old man ran to get his gun and finish the stranger, but Dick Rhodes covered him with his revolver and made him lay it down.
"Although it was raining as hard as it could pour he went and saddled his horse and rode away across he prairie, preferring a storm on the plains to such shelter. Three weeks after this the Bender gang was broken up. John and his father were lynched, the old woman and Kate escaped. In the garden were found thirteen graves of victims they had slain. Why Kate Bender spared Dick Rhodes is a mystery to everyone. She was never known to spare anyone else.

"But young folks it's getting late. No more stories to-night," said Ned Todd.

"Won't you continue them to-morrow night?" naked Winnie.
"For you I will, Miss Winnie. I don't see how one can deny you anything. Why, if I wasn't so old I would give Jack Royal there some trouble

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An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrit, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noyes, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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HE SUCCESS of the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago is assured-there need be, there can be, no question of that. The measures taken by the National Commission and by the Local Directory have been so complete and so elaborate that any one who has had a fear that the affair might be a failure may dismiss that fear at once as unreasonable and groundless. But Chicago itself, and by Chicago, I mean its citlzens have never had any doubt or fear. It is not like the citizen of Chicago to have any doubt or fear of the result of any enterprise in which their city is

They did not fail to appreciate then the importance and probable value of the occasion given them; and they prepared for the fair, having secured it from Congress and the National Government, with enthusiasm and skill. Above all they prepared for a big thing. Chicago is a big city and they do things there in a big way.

The Paris Exposition of a few years ago was the largest exhibition ever held until now and

the most complete exposition of the progress of the world. But whereas in Paris the Exposition covered a total space of one hundred and seventythree acres the Columbian Exposition will cover four times as much. There will be no lack of room for the machinery, the beautiful or useful specimens of manufactured goods, the food products, the live stock, the minerals, the paintings or statuary, or whatever may be sent, under the rules, by native or foreign exhibitors. All has been planned or arranged for on a large scale. Altogether there will be twelve large buildings designed by the leading architects of the country in which will be most of the exhibits duly classified and arranged. Besides these there will be innumerable other buildings specially erected by the National Government, the various States and by foreign nations. It is promised that Mexico will erect a reproduction of an Aztec palace; Guatemala will show a model of an ancient palace, and Ecuador will erect as she did in Paris a copy of her famous Temple of the Sun. Europe will do as well, while England is likely to have as its main building a reproduction of one of its famous palaces or houses, designed to illustrate typical English architecture. It may be that this will be a fac-simile of Sandringham, one of the seats of the Prince of Wales.

The main building of the Exposition will be an enormous structure. It will be 1688 by 788 feet. A walk around it will be a mile long. Its arched roof will be three-fourths as high as the dome of the National Capitol at Washington, while, exclusive of the dome, two such buildings as the Capitol could be placed within it. Bigness is characteristic of Chicago enterprises, and bigness will be the leading characteristic of the fair. The very earnestness, not to say bitterness, with which the contest for the possession of the exhibition was conducted among the rival American cities no doubt helped to the success of the affair. The citizens of Chicago became determined to show that they did not deserve the slurs cast upon them; they were and are determined to prove that they can do some things as well if not better than some others.

But great as will be the Exhibition itself the many visitors to Chicago next year will find the Exhibition located in a wonderful city. Its

ze and importance, its wealt! business interests will show the slower-going people of the old world what can be accomplished in America in a few years. Think of it! Where now there is a city of a million and a quarter about of inhabitants there were only a little more than fifty years ago a fort at the mouth of the Chicago River and a port for trading with the Indians! Where now there is a city teeming with active, busy, pushing people, where there are beautiful homes and office buildings whose lofty towers almost, pierce the clouds there was then an unbroken prairie.

CHICAGO IN ITS EARLY DAYS.

The city is second only to New York in the United States in size and commercial importance—by size I mean in population for it covers more ground than all Manhattan Island. It is situated on the west side but down near the southern end of Lake Michigan, one of the great inland seas of America. When the city was originally settled although it was six hundred feet above the level of the sea it was only seven feet higher than the surface of the lake but as long ago as 1855 it was raised seven feet

more or to fourteen feet above the lake. The were filled in and the houses raised by means of jack-screws. The buildings were raised without interfering with their uses either for living or business. That is a way they have in Chicago. While our illustrations on this page, outside of a few sketches, show more The Chicago of to-day, we have collected a group of photographic sketches [see page 14] of this great city in 1856, when the whole surface was being raised seven or eight feet, the streets being so muddy (where are now located the finest buildings) that planks were laid across to keep horses from going entirely out of sight. Although pedestrians were bespattered with mire when in the vicinity of passing drays. As soon as one building was raised the sidewalk had to be built up to a corresponding height, which left that in front of the adjoining one much below it, so it was a hard road to travel in those days to get along the streets of Chicago. The great crowds that had to single file up to the post-office on the narrow plank at

THE GREAT FIRE.

and most destructive fire of modern times. The fire was commenced by the overturning of a lamp in a district where the buildings were almost all of wood. It has never been proven that the fire was due to the misbehavior of a refractory cow in a stable; but that is the story which has been told and retold again. At all events, the fire began about nine o'clock in the evening of Sunday, October 8, 1871. It burned all through that night and the greater part of upgrade would certainly appreciate the the next day, destroying great blocks of houses.

In 1837 when was taken the first cenus of the city, the city had a population of only 4,170. It grew with wonderful rapidity even from the beginning, and in 1865 after the war it had a population of 178,492, and in 1871 the year of the fire, over 300,000. It was only after the war that Chicago become important in business and as a centre of great commercial enterprises. Then came the great fire.

It was like Chicago, which as I have said does all things in a big way, to have the largest

twenty millions of dollars have been planned.

guine predicted that it would take at least years to restore the buildings that were destroyed; but within three years the city had buildings equal in capacity and twice as valua-

The fire, indeed, seemed to be a blessing to the city at large. The population gained stronger ambition and greater energy. The citizens would not be beaten. They learned the old truth that energy is more useful, more profitable than wealth. Regulations were adopted forbidding the erection of buildings other than those of stone, or brick or iron. The consequence of the fire, of the necessary rebuilding and of the restrictions has been to make Chicago now the most beautiful of modern cities in its business district.

last under the careful and honest administration of a society of citizens until 1876. Temporary homes were provided for nearly 40,000 people; barracks and shelter houses were erected, workmen were supplied with

stop the progress of the flames, and finally

Within the first year after the fire new buildings were erected or started costing when finished over \$40,000,000. And the work of building has gone on ever since. And such buildings as they erect!

SOME GREAT BUILDINGS AND BOULEVARDS.

There is the custom-house and postoffice mammoth buildings of granite; the Board of Trade building also of granite,

with tall pillars supporting a carved cornice. Down by the river is the great brown-stone building of Marshall Field & Co. covering a whole block, and looking like a fortress well fitted to resist the attack of the elements or of any mob. There is the Tacoma office-building a tall graceful structure, the Rookery—queer name that!—to mention only two of perhaps two dozen of the enormous office buildings in the centre of the business district. And these office-buildings although so enormous are beautiful and well planned. They have elevators which raise one with almost express speed to their highest floors, or drop him safely to the lowest. They contain all the improvements for the comfort or convenience of their tenants which the ingenuity of man has been able to devise. So various are the occupa-

the ingenuity of man has been able to devise. So various are the occupations of their tenants that one choosing to have a bed in his office, need never leave the walls of the building—what with their barber tenants, their tailors and shoemakers and restaurants. One of these great buildings has a daily population of 40,000 and one on one day, by actual count, its elevators were used by 20,000 people. These buildings are all tall, some of them having from sixteen to twenty stories, while the new Masonic building, just completed, has twenty-one. There are other buildings, too, of which Chicago may be proud and will interest its visitors. There are great hotels and fine theatres and churches. The Auditorium is a great structure of granite with heavy walls occupying half a block, and, on one side, facing Lake Michigan. It contains a hotel, a theatre and a vast audience hall—a hall well adapted for the holding of great political conventions. It has a tower, too, from which one can look down upon the city or far out over the green waters of the lake. And this Auditorium is a monument to the love and admiration of the citizens of Chicago for their city, of their faith in it and of their public spirit. The city needed such a building, especially the large assembly room, and they raised the money and built it with but little reason to hope that they would receive any adequate return upon their money for many years to come.

Then along the sides of the wide handsome boulevards which run from the center of the city out, south and north to its extremities, are handsome substantial stone villas each with a more or less large plot of ground about it, the tasteful homes of the wealthy. Smaller homes there are in plenty. One sees few apartment houses for Chicago covers so much ground, that it has not been found necessary to crowd many families under one roof as must be done in New York where growth is restricted by the natural boundaries of the surrounding rivers.

are thirty-five lines of railway entering eighteen of them trun

There are thirty-five lines of railway entering Chicago, eighteen of them trunk lines. There are miles and miles of cable street railways. On these there is an average rate of speed of nine miles an hour. The ordinary speed of horse car lines is only six miles an hour. An elevated railroad is in process of construction which will make all the outlying regions more easily accessible.

easily accessible.

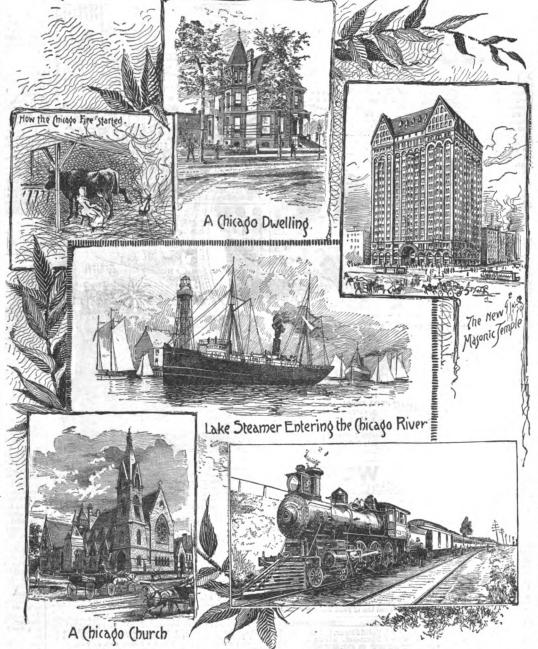
There are many beautiful parks in the city.
On the south side are Washington Park and
Jackson Park where the great exhibition is to
be held. On the north side is Lincoln Park,
containing 230 acres with a lake shore drive
many miles in length. And there are others so
that there are 1,856 acres set aside by Chicago
for public grounds.

that there are 1,806 acres set aside by Chicago for public grounds.

The public officials have appropriated three and a half million dollars for beautifying and improving the city and to put it into readiness for the Exhibition.

Improving the city and to put it into readness for the Exhibition.

It is a young and busy city; its people are hustling; but it is a great and beautiful city. It has splendid public schools, libraries, hospitals, storehouses, galleries and theatres. The millions who will be drawn thither by the fair will find the city itself a valuable and an impressive exhibit. It is worth examination and study for its own sake, and if those who see what it is will but remember how young it is, and that its oldest inhabitants have scarcely had time to grow old; they will find it a most wonderful example of American energy, of American taste and of American enterprise.



the last thirty years. Although the cows that grazed in front of the city reservoir on Adams St. might not thank the men who have forwarded the modern march of improvements but whatever happens business goes on and the people forward their interests with resistless energy. The streets are broad and straight and intersect each other at right angles. The Chicago River, an inlet of the lake, cuts the city in three parts. This river has always been a difficult problem Into it the city sewerage empties. Originally it emptied into the lake; but a remarkable piece of engineering changed its course. A canal was deepened so as to draw its water into the Illinois River, thence to run into the mighty Mississippi—at least this was the design; but the work was not altogether successful for now with the wind in certain quarters it still flows into the lake. As the drinking water of the city is drawn from the lake, being pumped from stations about two miles out care must be taken that the water be not contaminated. No harm from that source has yet been caused; and important improvements, to cost about

31-3 square miles-a district about four miles long and from one to one and a half miles wide. Wooden buildings were scattered throughout the entire city and these aided in spreading the conflagration. The total number of buildings burned was 1,745 and 98,860 people lost their homes while two hundred and fifty died in the flames or from exposure. Thousands sought safety in the lake and stood there for hours so escaping from the intense heat and the shower of sparks and cinders. Among the buildings destroyed were the custom-house, post-office court-house, chamber of commerce, and nearly all the churches, railway depots, hotels, banks theatres and newspaper offices. It was estimated that seventy-three miles frontage of streets was burned over, and that the total loss was \$196,000,000. A system of relief was at once organized and the money contributions from the various States and from abroad were nearly five millions of dollars. On the losses there was an insurance of over \$88,000,000; but only about half of this was recovered. The relief funds which were over and above contributions of food, clothing and supplies were made to





My Dear Nieces and Nephews:

It gives me such pleasure to look upon so many bright faces that belong to my great family, that I am content to be placed over in this out of the way corner in order that you may all catch a glimpse of each other the first thing as you unfold your Comports this month, and thus be at home with each other. The Editor says it required a large amount of work to reduce and redraw all the pictures from the photos sent in, and of course as it is only a part could be found place for on one page, and the balance will have to follow at a later day. To say that I am a proud Auntie would hardly express my pleasure this month, and only hope we may all have the privilege of meeting the originals at the World's Fair Reunion. One thing I am very sorry about, however, and that is that the many excellent letters that came with the photographs have had to be condensed so much, they all ontained beautiful thoughts and expressions which had to be clipped out for want of space. And now let you hear briefly from each one, have arranged them to come in rotation, Miss Bose being the first pictures top of left hand column of pictorial page the other pictures following across the page to the right each time as the letters follow each other down this column.

Our number, name and nom de plumes.

Our number, name and nom de plumes, And nameless other graces, In Comport's columns have appeared, This month we show our faces. Aurora dear, fair Sallie Stark, Join with us in this hour, Come hither now and launch your barque, Also our Kansas Flower.

This is a page quite free to all In this broad land of ours, Here we all meet in "cousins hall" And chat away the hours. From flower lands to frosty clime Our mutual love is blended, And here we spend such pleasant times We're sorry when it's ended.

From East and West we gather here From o'er all this happy land, With Aunt Minerva in the chair And the Owls complete the band.

We talk of temperance, home and grace, Our History Club we meet lon, We stare Wild Billy in the face, He takes so much attention.

Kind words and letters, essays, too, We find on every hand. Small gifts, cheering words, and friendship true Encircle our "Shut In" band.

Encircle our "Shut In" band.

We wish Godspeed to all good things,
To every thought and deed,
And wish that we could Comport bring
To every one in need.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I enjoy your paper very much
as well as the letters I receive from the cousins. I live in the country but it is very beautiful here, being surrounded by mountains and watered by a slivery stream called Silver Creek. We have many
summer visitors in this natural park. Wishing you
success for the coming year, I remain a friend of
COMPORT.

Bilver Creek, Ottawa Co., Province Quebec, Can.
Dear Aunt:—I send my picture for the pictorial

Dear Aunt Minerya:—I have long been a silent ad-

FANNIE A. GOODNOW, White Pigeon, Mich.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have long been a silent admirer and reader of the cousins' chats and I will now come if I may and get acquainted. Pedagogue, I wish to shake hands with you. I think you deserve a medal. Sadle dear, I want to soold you just the least little mite for the way you rated Wild Bill. Should be pleased to hear from any of the cousins.

KATHIE SINGLAIR, Columbia Falls, Maine.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Will you accept another nephew from New York State. I live in Auburn, a city of 28,000 inhabitants. It contains the State Prison and the State Asylum. The prison has over 300 convicts. The first time I ever saw COMPORT I was so taken with it that I never got over it. Wishing all a pleasant winter, I remain,

HARRY B. WEBB, 114 So. Division St.

Dear Aunt Minerva and COUSINS:—I have for several

HARRY B. WEBB, 124 So. Division St.

Dear Aunt Minerva and Cousins:—I have for several years read this department with interest and have many times wished to join your happy band. I live in Madison Co. near Lake Madison, which has been designated as the place for holding the Chautauquan Assembly and Summer School. The scenery about the lake is especially fine and I hope to meet many of the cousins there next summer, and many more with Aunt Minerva at the World's Fair.

CAREY W. SMITH, Madison, South Dakots.

"I subscribed for COMPORT

REY W. SMITH, Madison, Sout!
"I subscribed for Comport
Because I thought it bright,
To read the cousins' letters
Has been my great delight.
Enclosed within this letter
I will my photo send,
But you may keep it, Auntie,
For I have one to lend,
And now I'll say adleu
Until some later day,
But pray do not forget
Your cousin LIDA May,
Beatrice Gase C

asin Lida May, Beatrice, Gage Co., Neb." "I must say if we follow the advice in the letters we will never regret it in after years. At some future time I will give you a sketch of the great North West.

G. G. Bells, Harrisburgh, Oregon."

West. G. G. Bellas, Harrisburgh, Oregon."

Dear Aunt Minerva:—ComFort comes to me a most welcome visitor every month. I take a few refined papers to cheer my lonely life, but none are so dear to me as Comfort. Please ask the Editor to let us have a household page. I have been a cripple ever since I was a year and a half old caused by scarlet fever, and have never walked without crutches since. Will some one please send me the rules and regulations of the King's Daughters?

MES. A. MAYNARD,

"We not only take Comfort but have a comfort of

426 Bald Eagle St., Lock Haven, Pa.

"We not only take Comport but have a comfort of
my own as you will see by my photo. I think the
column is very entertaining and instructive.

Mrs. Dellanry, Dundas, Minn."

Dear Aunt Minerva and Comport Fiends:—I have
been reading Comport for two years and think a
single copy worth a year's subscription price. I live
in Kentucky and my father is a farmer and I like
farming very much. I like to correspond with the
farming very much. I like to correspond with the
form ous in and think that there can be no
harm in it even if they are unknown to me.

W. B. Harris, Morrill, Ky.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I read the cousins' letters in Comport every month and find them very interesting as well as instructive. I was born in Norwich, England, 150 miles northeast of London. In 1876 left Victoria Docks London for America and had a very rough passage, taking 17 days. We went to Philadelphia and visited the Centennial Exhibition then in progress, where I saw much to interest me Advantage.

going to Crawfordsville, Ind., and Hastings, Neb., we moved to this place where we have lived ever since. Hoping the sick cousins are all improving, I remain respectfully, HERBERT TILNEY, Marysville, Kans.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have been away from home since last October on account of my health, but I am now partly able to resume my neglected studies. Ocusins: let us remember "Judge not lest ye be judged"—learn to be charitable. If we can see no way of giving a helping hand let us not sid in putting down a fellow mortal.

Oh! to know the worth of living,
To be earnest in the strife,
Living grandly, nobly, truly,
Making sweeter, better life.
Sincerely, MADD L. CLARK, Galesburgh, Mich.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Although it is a whole year since I wrote you I have never forgotten you and am always interested in the cousins' letters in COMPORT each month. My father is the postmaster here and I am the assistant. We live about 30 miles from the city of Ottawa, in the land of ice and snow and have grand times skating, sliding and toboganning. Would like to hear from all the cousins.

ELSPY M. Ross, Silver Creek, Quebec.

Aunt Minerva:—I have been a reader of Comport for the past two years and cannot but say that it has been a very beneficial paper to me. So please consider me a nephew. I think the corresponding department a grand thing indeed. Long may a paper prosper that has such able workers. With best wishes to my cousins, I remain,

F. W. HALL, Box 45, Cordelia, Pa.

Dear Auntie:—Your corner looks so inviting and the cousins' letters are so inviting that I want you to claim me as one of your nephews. I have been a reader of COMFORT for over a year and can hardly wait until it comes each month. Here is my photo-graph. JOHN A. ZEPP, Melrose, Carroll Co., Md.

Dear Aunt and Comport Consins:—We are but travellers over the old yet ever new road of life and the journey is what we make it. So then let us strive to brighten with the glorious sunshine of happiness, not only our own paths but the paths of those who are near and dear to us.

C. Lizzie Eckerr, Box 828, Hastings, Minn.

C. LIZZIE EGERET, BOX EZ, RESUNGS, MINN.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am knocking for admittance.

I think COMFORT an exceedingly nice paper and it is a comfort to me to read in it the chais of the many cousins. I have been a subscriber a year and I assure you I have derived more than 25 cents' worth of benefit from it.

CORA RUNDLE, Montesuma, Iowa.

Dear Aunt:—I send you my photo as you requested enjoy Comport and the chats with the nieces and tephews. Ross G. Turner, Fountain Park, Ohio.

nephews. Ross G. TURNER, Fountain Park, Ohio.
Dear Aunt Minerva:—I think the Editor is so kind
to allow us to come together with the consins through
the medium of Aunt Minerva and the Owls, but as we
are to have so grand a coming together of faces space
will be above par. Godspeed to COMPORT and all the
cousins. J. O. HIESTAN, Pleasantville, Ohio.
Mrs. Chas. S. Hubbard, Ottawa, Ill., writes that she
is Secretary of the local W. C. T. U. and an active
worker in the Epworth League. She was awarded
one of the prizes in the Essay Club. Mr. and Mrs. H.
both say they enjoy COMPORT very much and this department in particular.

Dear Aunt and Cousins:—I enjoy every part of

partment in particular.

Dear Aunt and Cousins:—I enjoy every part of COMPORT, but this department especially. I am glad to come into this cozy corner and greet you. I like the idea of a pictorial page and send my photo. My home is situated near the city of Bloomington, which contains about 30,000 inhabitants. May good luck attend you.

KITTIE ARNFIELD, Bloomington, Ill.

tend you. KITTIE ARMFIELD, Bloomington, Ill.

"I send you my photo to be used in the group of cousins and would give the price of a year's subseription for the illustrated issue. Give my sympathy to the afficted and 'Shut Ins.' I would say to them to bear their burdens bravely remembering Him who said, 'Come unto me all ye who are weak and heavy laden and I will give you rest.' What a glorious assurance from Him who is able to fulfill all promises. My love to Aunt and all the cousins.

DANIEL B. OSBORNE, Coelleds, Missouri.

DANIEL B. OSBORNE, Coelleda, Missouri.

Dear Aunt:—I want to join the band of loving cousins. I am 10 years old and go to school. I read COMFORT every night to mama and she explains what I cannot understand and tells me "where there is a will there's a way." With love to all and a bushel and a peck and a hug on the neck for Auntie, I will close.

PEREN, WEER, Louisville, Miss.

Dear Aunt Misserva:—I have been a COMFORT subsariber for two-years and have often wanted to join the composition of the composition of the could wait no longer. I am a milliner and support myself and think it very nice to be independent.

LENORA MARTIN,

200 Broad St., Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Aunt and Cousins:—I have been taking Con-

Dear Aunt and Cousins:—I have been taking ComPoer since Feb. 1890 and I feel that I could not do
Without it, for if I should quit taking Comport I
should lose much comfort. I am an ex-pedagogue
and now do considerable work in the County Clerk's
office, and am also a reporter for one of our city
dailies. Feank M. Beverly, Clintwood, Va.

dallies. PRANK M. BEVERLY, Clintwood, Va.

Dear Aunt:—We all enjoy Comport very much and
ust improvement in the past two years has pleased
us. Each month we watch eagerly for its coming
that we may read the new social and novel features
with which it is filled, and, which make it the best
and most attractive paper in the U.S. I am a farmer's boy but have been visiting in the city of Waco
and will return there in a few days to attend a business college. I play on four different musical instruments and wish I could entertain you all.

Otto H. Fisher, Giddings, Lee Co., Texas.

Dear Aunt:—I am a bachelor and a Florida Cracker

Dear Aunt:—I am a bachelor and a Florida Cracker of the purest type. Girls, don't you pity me? I live in a large orange grove near numerous lakes whose clear waters are filled with fine fish and large alligators. If you have ever seen an orange grove in blossom you will agree that nothing can equal its beauty.

FLORIDA CRACKER, Umatila, Fla.

beauty. Floring Cracker, Umatila, Fla.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have never read a letter
from this section and I am coming to shake hands
with the cousies (provided). I would like to shake
hands with Nellie and I think Pedagogue voices my
sentiments. I would like very much to help Mrs.
James but her address was not given with the letter.
If you will tell me what it is I will send her what she
needs I. H. N. With love to all I bid you adieu.

MINNIE BAUGH, Maysville, Ga.

meeds I. H. N. With love to all I bid you adieu.

Minnie Bauos, Maysville, Ga.

Dear Aunt Minerva and Cousins:—I have been an ardent reader of Comyonr for a long time and now I must express my feelings. What a comfort it is to have so many dear cousins and such a noble, kind and generous Aunt to meet us with anxious greeting and smile of welcome. I take a great many papers but think Comport best of all, and a comfort it proves to be when I read and re-read its precious contents and think how many hearts in all parts of the world are cheered by its numerous interesting topics. None are forsaken but all are cordially invited to take place in its columns.

JENNIE COWAN, Wellington, Abeville Co., S. C.
Dear Aunt:—This section of the Lone Star State has a fine climate. We enjoy the sea breezes in summer and in winter hunt the game which abounds. I am a 15 year old nephew studying Pitman's system of phonography and enjoy it much. I am in favor of organizing a Comfort Ald Society for the young folks. Would like to correspond with the cousins.

PAYNE FINDLAY, Mineral City, Bee Co., Texas.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Will you welcome a nicce

PATNE FINDLAY, Mineral City, Bee Co., Teams.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Will you welcome a niece
from Colorado who has been a silent admirer of ComFORT for some time. I take a number of papers but
enjoy Comport more than all the rest. I am 18 years
old and live on a ranch in the beautiful San Louis
Valley, and enjoy very much the view of the snow
eovered mountains we can get from here.

MARY B. NICHOLSON.

"I am a nephew,
I am a constant reader of Comport.
I am one of those Brawny Fisted Farmers.
I thank the Lord for giving me health all the days
f my life.

ny life. am a member of the Baptist Church. was brought up in the Sunday-school. like to go to see the bright faces of the boys and

tris.

I like the boys (but).

I could not begin to tell you how much.

I love the dear sweet girls for

I want my life to be pure like theirs.

I think if

I did not love them

I think it
I did not love them
I should go wild and die in the woods.

Dear Aunt:—I reside with a widowed mother in a secluded home in the Sunny South, where Spring wears her mantle of glory and Autumn her robe of purple. Comport is my favorite paper and my books, birds and flowers are not only my associates but my friends, for in them I place implicit confidence. The wild birds I have tamed and made my pets, but I do not cage them and I wish the cousins could see them answer my call with their chorus of merry voices, and flock from their forest homes to eat the crumbs I throw to them.

SUEANNO LEE PORTER, Selman, Fla.

Dear Auntie:—I send you my picture which papa had taken one day when I was out playing with my dusky companions down here in Florids. I like living here very much and take comfort among the flowers and oranges.

Master Phelps.

Now with best wishes and many thanks to you all for the pleasure of a look at your faces we will close the column and think of some new feature to keep this department ever fresh and interesting for us all, but would remind each and every one that now would be a good time to send the publishers a renewal of your subscription, do not send money to me as that department is entirely separate from mine and would occasion you great delay.

With kind regards,

With kind regards,

(Care of COMPORT.)

AUNT MINERVA, (Care of Comport.)



GRANDMOTHER'S PLAN.

When Papa and Mama and dear Aunt Sue
Have all read Comfort through and through,
Then Grandmother takes it; she waits till the last,
Because, as she tells, she cannot read fast,
And besides, she declares, it's a much better plan
To make Comfort last just as long as you can;
So she reads a bit now and she reads a bit then,
Sometimes to her grandchildren, Hetty and Ben,
Who agree that the hour spent with Comfort and her
Is the happiest one in the whole twenty-four.

LOOK HERE FRIEND, ARE YOU SICKS LOOK HEKE FRIEND, ARE YOU SICK?

Do you auffer from Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sour
Stomach, Liver Complaint, Nervousness, Lost Appetite,
Billiousness, Exhaustion or Tired Feeling, Pains in Chest
or Lungs, Dry Cough, Night Sweats, Nervous Debility or
any form of Consumption? If so, send to Prof. Hart, 89
Warren St., New York, who will sond you free, by natl,
a bottle of medicine which is a sure cure. Send to-day.

A BEAU tiful neck, face and arms. Don't pay 50c., but send 10c. for sealed package, to make your skin soft and white, or cure pimples, freekles, moth, wrinkles, ac. Warranted. F. R. BIRD. Roy 149 Lausend 10c. for sealed package, to make your skin and white, or cure pimples, freekles, moth, wrinkles, Warranted. F. R. BIRD, Box 142, Augusta, Maine.

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hit at World's Fair history. Each of us can be Columbus.
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more amusement and instruction than could be obtained for times the price we sak for the naner alsos. Each package could let the Board, I Backgammon the \$5.00 Prise Puzzle, games: one Centennial year, Morse Telegraph
Table, the Language of Flowers, 137 Selections for Aubarpta bums, and 40 Valuable Money-Making Recipes. Yourn's Let is a handsome paper brim full of interesting stories, plasmas This is a grand offer and you should send at once. You will be pleased. A dime well warned in each cath. Address, Youth's Leader, 5. New Haven, Co

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\$800.00 CASH!

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This rebus represents the chief product of Swedner plantations. Some of it is in your clothes. What is it to the first person sending us a correct answer one before May 50th, 1852, we will give \$7800 cash; to the next \$8100; to the next \$800 and to the next ten persons. \$\mathbb{E}\$ each, To the person from whom we receive the last correct answer, we will give \$3900; to the next ten persons \$\mathbb{E}\$ each. Bosides these cash presents we will semd five scheats to every person sending in a correct answer, ackage of Tarkish Persons, the most fragrant and hed ing of Oriental productions. With your answer and in the continuous productions with your answer and for the person of the continuous productions. The continuous productions of the continuous co



This rebus represents the tool most used by carpent Whatis if! We will give to the first person sending a correct answer on or before May list. 1820 as a correct answer on or before May list. 1820 as the third, \$40, and to the next ten person, as a case, the third, \$40, and to the next ten person, as a case, the third, \$40, and to the next ten person whose answer is exactly in the control of the person whose answer is exactly in the correct are we will give \$40, the person from whom we receive the last correct as we will give \$400; to the next to person, \$5 each. With your amy you must send in \$5 each in silver or \$10 each in she for a full package of Dr. Wilson's Vegetable (composal, w) is the best vegetable of Dr. Wilson's Vegetable (composal, w) is the best vegetable in the person will drive away the most severe headache discovers and colds and relieve the worst case of corpation. Being purely vegetable it cures every almoof abilious character and thus acts in harmony we nature. It will save hundreds of dollars in doce bills. REMEM BER, you pay sothing for these present faction. Remedy sent to any address by mail. As wantee, Dr. Wilson's Celebrated Mediche. We guarantee faction. Being purely ended to any address by mail. As wantee, Dr. Wilson's Celebrated Mediche. We guarantee faction.

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From Prof. Rollair, the world-renowned magician and meamerist, the manufacturers have obtained the secrets for making much of the apparatus contained in this cabinet. This wonderful box contains material which will enable you to give a two hours' exhibition practice of contains material which will enable you to give a two hours' exhibition practice by purior or hall. Every trick is easily performed by any person without practice by purior or hall. Every trick is casily performed by any person without practice of deception, but which the thoroughly examined without revealing any trace of deception, but which every upright on the floor, will dance; the MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE, in which care upright on the floor, will dance; the MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE, in which every give in the floor will dance; the MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE, in which will dance the MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE, in which will dance the MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE, in which will dance; the MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE, in which will dance; the MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE, in which will dance the MYSTERIOUS AQUARIAL FEART, ellele's SECOND SIGNIFIC THE ROLL AND AND ADMINISTRATION OF ANN'S SHIRT Willows Departs and FLAMES most association of the sample of the control of the sample of the control of the sample of t



plete Cabinet of Twenty-five Trick

ONLY



FIFTY CENTS!

me fourth of the regular price.) Send fifty cents to us at and if you are not fully satisfied, we will send you back your. . You will be delighted and astomished it ver before offered anything of the kind for such a remarkable like you.



DEAR COUSINS:

Have you forgotten the rule of our department, which is to help one another? Among the new subscribers which Comport is gaining all the time, there must be many young house-keepers who are needing so much the help and advice of the older and more experienced ones; and will you not give it to them? Send not only recipes for cooking, but hints and suggestions about all kinds of housework; not something which you have read in a newspaper, and think that perhaps it might be good, but something which you have tried yourself, and found to be really useful and helpful. If we cannot make our column profitable and interesting, the Editor will certainly drop it; and then I am sure you would be sorrry. Please remember about writing on one side of the paper only. only. Now for the recipes.

Cousin Ceres:—May I come in just a moment with a few recipes and a request? First I will give a recipe for

MOUNTAIN CAKE.

2 cups sugar, 1 cup butter, 1 cup sweet milk, 6 eggs (beaten separately), 4 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon soda. Flavor to suit taste.

to suit taste.

It is rather early for pickling receipts, but I would like for some of the cousins to try my recipe this summer for making

w fe

would like to recipe this summer for making

sweet pickled peaches.

Select late peaches, peel them, or rub them with damp cloth; put a quart of vinegar in a kettle and add 2 pounds of sugar, an ounce each of cinnamon and mace, and 1-2 ounce of ginger and cloves. Let boil and drop in the peaches (5 pounds to the quart of vinegar). Let them scald, take up, put in a jar and pour the syrup, boiling hot, over them. Drain off, heat and pour over the peaches for 9 days.

Hoping that some of the cousins will give a recipe for Crab Apple Preserves, I will go.

M. L. M.

"I have tried so many nice recipes from your olumn, that I feel I ought to return the favor y sending a recipe that may help some one.

column, that I test 1 cags.

by sending a recipe that may help some one.

YEAST FOR BREAD.

4 common sized potatoes, cooked and mashed,
1 cup of sugar and 2 tablespoonfuls of salt, to
1-2 gallon of warm water. While you are cooking your potatoes, put 1 dry yeast cake in a little warm water to soak. Stir the whole well together and set in a warm place for 24 hours.
After your yeast comes once, you need not add the yeast cake, the yeast will be good without, and if set in a cool place after it comes (which you can tell by little bubbles rising to the top very fast, making a hissing sound) will keep 2 or 3 weeks.

Will some cousin of Comfort please send a recipe for making crackers such as you buy?
It will be a great favor to me indeed.

BOSA NELL.

JELLY CAKE.

Bugar 1 cup, butter size of an egg, sour milk 2-3 cup, 2 eggs, flour 2 cups, soda 1-2 teaspoonful; bake.

FRUIT CAKE.

Sugar 1 cup, molasses 2-3 cup, 1-2 cup butter,
1 cup raisins, cloves, cinnamon and allspice 1
tablespoonful, coffee 2-3 cup, soda 1 teaspoonful; dissolve the soda in a little warm water; 3
eggs, beat the eggs light.

eggs, beat the eggs light.

GRAHAM GEMS WITH SOUR MILK.

Graham flour 1 quart, 1 egg well beaten, butter 1 tablespoonful, melted, a little salt, dissolve the soda in a cup of sour milk and stir it with more sour milk, sufficient to make a stiff batter. The gem pans being warm, dip the batter in to half fill them.

MAGGIE E. NELSON, Triumph, Ills.

"Perhaps I should not occupy space when it could be used to better advantage, but nevertheless would like to step in a moment. Will give recipe for

EXCELLENT CAKE.

2 cups of sugar, 3 eggs beaten well, a little
over 1-2 cup butter or lard, then add 1-2 cup
sweet milk, (beat the lard to a cream.) Mix 2
heaping teaspoonfuls of good baking powder
into 21-2 cups sifted flour. Vanilla flavoring.
Bake in 3 layers.

A FEW HINTS.

Stale lard can be made sweet by bringing to a boil with slices of raw potatoes thrown in. Impurities will rise and can be skimmed off.

Oilcloths should never be washed in hot soap suds; they should first be washed with cold water, then rubbed dry with a cloth wet in wilk.

milk.
Ink stains soaked in milk and wet with lemon

juice may be removed.

Iron rust may be removed by mixing salt with lemon juice, or wetting salt with hot vitrol.

D. G. B., Warwick, Ala."

The ink stains must be placed in the hot sun after applying the lemon ju

Dear Cousin Ceres:—I will send you some tested recipes, which I hope will find a place in your column of our dear little Comport.

your column of our dear little Comport.

COTTAGE PUDDING.

Beat 1-2 a cup of sugar and 1-4 of a cup of butter well together, then add the yolks of 2 eggs well beaten, then a cup of milk, 2 1-2 cups of flour, with 2 tablespoonfuls of baking powder sifted in it, and lastly the whites of the eggs beaten stiff. Beat together thoroughly; bake in a moderate oven. Serve hot with sauce.

in a moderate oven. Serve hot with sauce.

HASHED POTATO.

Cut some cold boiled potatoes into small dice, butter a shallow baking dish, put in the potatoes about 1-2 an inch deep, sprinkle with pepper, salt and bits of butter, pour enough milk to cover them all over and bake in a brisk oven till quite brown.

Have any of the cousins any good recipes for buckwheat cakes? that is, without yeast.

Your loving cousin, Anna B.

Your loving cousin, ANNA B.

COFFEE CAKE.

1 cup sugar, 1 cup butter, 1 egg and 1 cup molasses well mixed together; then add 1 cup strong cold coffee, 3 or 4 cups of flour. Some flour requires more moisture than others, so that the quantity may have to be varied to make batter of a proper consistency. If baking powder is used, 1 teaspoonful for each cup of flour, or if soda is preferred, 1 teaspoonful for the total amount of flour csed; 1 cup raisins seeded and chopped, 1 cup currants washed and dried, 1 teaspoonful each of ground cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg; the the

raisins and currants should be rolled in flour to keep them from settling to the bottom. M. E. F.

Here are some good recipes from a Canadian

2 eggs, I cup sugar, 1-2 cup butter, 1-2 cup milk, a little nutmeg, I teaspoon of soda and 2 of cream tartar, flour to make a good dough. of cream tartar, flour to Cut in patterns and fry.

2 cups molasses, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup lard and butter, 1 1-2 tablespoons ginger, a little salt. Mix all these ingredients together, put over fire and let come to a boil. When cool, add 3-4 teaspoon soda, and flour to make a stiff dough. Knead, roll very thin.

CHOCOLATE CANDY.

1 cup grated chocolate, 1 cup milk, 1 cup nolasses, butter size of an egg, 1 cup sugar. molasses, b Boil 1 hour.

cocoanut cake.

2 well-beaten eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1-2 cup mřík,
2 tablespoons butter, 2 cups grated cocoanut, 1
teaspoon cream tartar, 1-2 teaspoon soda. Bake
in jelly tins.

PLANTATION JOHNNY CAKE.

1 pint Indian meal, 1-2 cup sugar, 3 eggs, 1 tablespoon butter or lard, 3-4 teaspoon soda, 1 of cream tartar, and enough buttermilk or sweet milk to make a thick batter. Grease the pan well, pour the batter into it, and bake in a slow oven at least 5 hours.

POP OVERS.
3 cups milk, 3 cups flour, 3 eggs. Bake 1-2 hour in a quick oven, in cups.

WHITE MOUNTAIN CAKE.

34eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1-2 cup milk, 1-2 cup butter, 2 cups flour, 1 teaspoon soda, 2 of cream tartar. Flavor to taste.

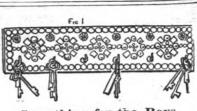
Pare and boil 6 or 8 large potatoes; when done, pour off the water, add more water, an onion or two, let boil, then add about 3 quarts of cream and milk. Let it boil up, and serve.

Bella Fisk.

Address all letters to Cousin Ceres, (Care of Comfort.)

THE MINISTER'S WIDOW.

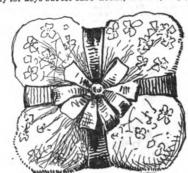
Before Mary was taken down with the Grip every thing was going along smoothly in our little home,' wrote Mrs. James Martin, known as The Minister's Widow. "Johnnie was choring around before and after school and picked up quite a number of dollars in that way; little Nell attended the primary, and my beautiful and greatest helpmate Mary had a splendid run of dressmaking, so with my own sewing we were getting on very nicely without our friends' assistance, and just commencing to lay aside a little money, having paid all debts that were hanging over us from



Something for the Boys.

There seems to be so many things for the girls in the family in the way of fancy articles that we think the boys will appreciate a little thing for them. They display so much skill and so much patience in making odds and ends that we older people seldom realize their ability till they have attained eminence in some profession and all the world is talking about their genius.

Here is a little keyboard which any boy can make up, figure 1. It is made with brass and silver headed nails of various sizes. One must have a sharp pointed awl and a piece of leather or some soft substance to protect the head of the nails when hammering them. If a hardware store is convenient they will sell you a nail guard and at the same time you can get a good variety of fancy nails. When finished and polished with a coat of shellac and varnish the boy will have a very useful and ornamental article not only for keys but for shoe hooks, scissors, rings, etc.



Now here is something for the boy's sister. It is an eider down pillow. They are always attractive and one cannot have too many of them as there is always a place in which to use them. There are chairs and sofas and lounges without number that are always crying for them and the demand seems unlimited. A pretty way to make them is to have the bag for the down rather large and then cover it with a bag which is still larger. Sew two bands of ribbon crosswise around the cushion rather tightly, finishing with a full bow and afterwards pull the fullness into each corner. The silk in the sketch has pink wild roses with pale green leaves and the ribbons were of pink satin with a generous bow composed of loops and ends of light green and pink. These colors may be varied and the material may be China silk or some other bright colored cloth that is not quite so expensive.



HE CONSULTED HIS WATCH

the first year's trials of trying to exist without James. How quickly matters change in this world, how much we depend on a kind Providence to watch over us. Oh, what if my darling daughter Mary had died when we seemed to need her the most, and what dark days those were after being taken down, becoming feverish, helples and almost beyond recovery. That night when our good physician took his watch out and counted the pulse beats, saying he had done everything in his power to save my girl and that it would only be a question of a few hours as to her stay with us, what anguish we all suffered, even little Nell clinging to my skirts seemed to understand our utter clinging to my skirts seemed to understand our utter clinging to my skirts seemed to understand our utter helplessness and realized the sorrowful tidings. Oh, had the life from that beautiful body got to go out, the spark from that soul ascend to Heaven now, but how lifeless that exquisitely moulded arm now seemed as the doctor held that beautiful hand in his. One last ray of hope seemed to dawn upon me after the doctor had departed, and I sent Johnnie to neighbor Green who was acting agent for that wonoh, what if my darling daughter Mary had died when we seemed to need her the most, and what dark days those were after being taken down, becoming feverish, helples and almost beyond recovery. That night when our good physician took his watch out and rounted the pulse beats, saying he had done everything in his power to save my girl and that it would only be a question of a few hours as to her stay with us, what anguish we all suffered, even little Nell clinging to my skirts seemed to understand our utter helplessness and realized the sorrowful tidings. Oh, had the life from that beautiful body got to go out, the spark from that soul ascend to Heaven now, but how lifeless that exquisitely moulded arm now seemed as the doctor held that beautiful hand in his. One last ray of hope seemed to dawn upon me after the doctor had departed, and I sent Johnnie to neighbor Green who was acting agent for that wonderful Oxien I had been told so much about. The awful cough soon seemed easier after a few tablets were given her, her mind did not wander so much, sweet, gentle and peaceful sleep came to her. Those exciting, nervous dreams ceased, magic results seemed to be promised as the outcome of using that wonderful food for the nerves, Oxien, although at soul hat night. It is only those that have to walk so near the precipice that can realize the sweet satisfaction of having a dear one saved, yes brought back from the dead as it were, and I do hope everyone who have a substantial to the seemed to be promised as the outcome of using that wonderful food for the nerves, Oxien, although at soul hat night. It is only those that have to walk so near the precipice that can realize the sweet satisfaction of having a dear one saved, yes brought back from the dead as it were, and I do hope everyone who have a substantial to the seem of the promise of the heavest hand here of the Nerves than she would without bread and butter. "Why," she writes, "I was a poor, mean, yellowskinned looking woman not weighing a hundred pounds, without stre

gone the rounds of all River, and tried as he said a "cart load of patent medicines," and then gone to England to see his folks and consult the old family physician, in a land where the most eminent doctors are raised and educated, and was advised by them to come home and prepare to die. In spite of all this Oxien mended his shattered system, possessed him with a normal appetite, smoothed the wrinkles from his face and restored to him all the priceless possessions given him by his Maker, so lightly valued by him then, but of a known value to him now since they were once lost as he thought beyond recovery. And then down on the blue and rolling Kennebec in the beautiful cityfof Gardiner, Maine, Miss S.A.Greely, an estimable young lady who had for seven years been an intense sufferer from nervous prostration and those great troubles incident to her sex, found relief through Oxien, and her father said yesterday that a new life seemed opened to him since his daughter had been restored to health. Remember there is but one Oxien. The Giant tells the story, others are already trying to imitate and palm off worthless stuff under all sorts of disguised names, but Oxien is the only true and reliable Food that brings one back to life again. Consumption will be the direct follower of many cases of La Grippe and with an Oxien Plaster and Giant Box of Oxien Food one can withstand the ravages of any disease. We intrough the spring and summer allings. The Oxien Flous and the seed of the year when that tired feeling is especially prevalent. You need just this strength producing, life giving food to carry you through the spring and summer allings. The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are wonderful in their effect taken in connection with the Food, or used by themselves, and The Giant Oxie Co., Augusts, Maine, are the sole manufacturers of Food and Plasters and want agents to write for terms and Free samples at once, so as to be ready to secure some of the very valuable premiums now being given away.

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YOU GET A PRIZE

IF YOU READ THIS REBUS.

This Rebus contains six words, what are they To the First Person sending a correct answer by mail before May 31, 1832, we will send

To the First Person sending a correct answer by mail before May 31, 1822, we will send

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN CASH.

To the Second correct answer, \$25 in cash. To the third, \$10 and to the next five each a Nickel or Gold Plated Watch. To the next 50 each a Set of Fine Silver Plated Tea Spoons. To the person sending in the last correct answer we will give a Solid Gold Stem Winding Watch. To the next sas 50 High Arm Sewing Machine with full set of attachments. To the next 50 each a Fine Gold Plated Ring. Answers must reach us on or before April 30th; with your answer send 25 cts. cash or postal note or 30 cts. in postinge stamps for a subscription to our Illustrated 16 page Paper, worth a \$1.00 a year. Paper and prizes will be sent on receipt of answer, as soon as the contest closes a printed list with the names of the successful contestants will be sent to each one. This offer is made solely to advertise our Publications and introduce them in new homes. A Barrel of Money for you if you answer quick. Write your answer, name and Post office address plainly, and send subscription money to.

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BIOLYCEN

ALVAY.

This Rebus is the name of a machine for out-door sport that every boy and girl in the land would like to be the owner. WHAT IS IT? We will give to the first person from whom we receive the correct answer before May 30th, 1829, \$100-00 in Gold. To the next two, an Elegant High Grade Safety Bicycle (28-in. wheels); to the next five persons, a Handsome Silk Bress Pattern of 16 yards in Black, Blue. Green, Brown or Fancy. To the next 10, a Sold Gold Genuine Diamond Ring, and to the next 16 sending in the correct answer, st. 60dig to the next two, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, a Bicycle as above described; to the next to, and the control of the next to, and the next to the next to, and the next to, and the next to the next to, and the next to the next to, and the next to, an

Cousin Hebe's Reflections.

Stories of the late war are always interesting, but a particularly good one is told by an old soldier as follows:

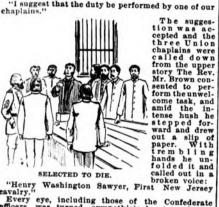
The most thrilling incident connected with Libby Prison took place July 6, 1883, about seven months before the attempt to escape. By order of General Winder the seventy-two captains confined there drew lots for two of their number to be shot in retaliation for the shooting of Captains W. F. Corbin and T. J. McGraw by General Burnside at Sandusky, Ohio, during the preceding May. Their offence was that of recruiting in Kentucky for the Confederate army.

Captain Turner assembled the Union prisoners in a room in the prison at noon. They were formed in a hollow square around a table and told what General Winder had ordered should be done.

"You may select one of your number to do the drawing," said Captain Turner, "and the first two names taken from the box will indicate the couple that are to be shot,"

Captain Sawyer, of the First New Jersey cavalry, said:

"I suggest that the duty be performed by one of our chaplains."



"Henry Washington Sawyer, First New Jersey eavalry."

Every eye, including those of the Confederate officers, was turned sympathizingly toward the officer, who was the coolest man in the room.

"Well," he remarked with a smile, "it had to be someone, and I can stand it as well as any of you."

The second name was that of Captain John Flinn, Fitty-first Indiana. Captain Flinn showed natural emotion and was greatly depressed. The rest of the party was dismissed, and the two doomed men were taken to General Winder's office, where they were told they might write to their friends. Captain Sawyer wrote to his family and read the letter aloud to a Confederate officer. His voice was firm until he came to the last farewell to his wife and children. Then the brave man broke down, and begging the indulgence of those around him turned away his head and wept like a child.

Flinn had no letters to write and asked for a priest. His request was granted. Then they were ordered to be kept in close confinement until the day fixed for execution. Fortunately, however, that day never came. In due time they were exchanged and returned to their families.

War is brutal and nothing can ever justify it.

One by one our old traditions are being disproved. The beautiful tale of William Tell and the apple is now declared to be a myth and now comes along a writer toupset our notions on fish diet.

One popular fallacy in connection with fish may be noticed, namely, the oft-repeated assertion that the eating of that particular food increases brain power. No one who has studied the subject can possibly believe the assertion. A man might eat a huge portion of fish every day of his life, and on the day of his death, if the quantity of phosphorous (the brain invigorator) consumed were to become visible, it would not amount to more than might probably suffice to tip a couple of lucifer-matches. Communities have existed that lived almost solely on fish; but these ichthyophagists were certainly not famous for intellectual attainments. No fishing com



the attitude of arranging her heavy tresses. In an instant little Effe became alive, and, wildly clapping her hands in delight, she loudly exclaimed: "Oh, look, look! There's mamma!" The effect upon the assembly was electrical, as every one had met and admired Mrs. Gbefore the lights were turned down; but as it was too dark to see what happened, it is safe to assume than spanked, by the parent so unexpectedly complimented.

dark to see what nappened, it is safe to assume that the enjant terrible was affectionately hugged, rather than spanked, by the parent so unexpectedly complimented.

The folly and danger to life of the latest style of the dressmaker's art, was very unexpectedly and alarmingly illustrated by the experience of one of Hartford's well-known business men, the other day, while on a business trip to New York (says the Hartford "Daily Times"). The day was hot, business cares had been laborious, and our business friend lay down after lunch for a nap, being desirous of refreshing himself before going to an evening dinner-party. His room at one of New York's elegant uptown hotels was cool and inviting. In his hurry to make the most of time at his disposal he failed to lock the door, quickly going to sleep in his shirt-sleeves. His awakening was sudden. A handsomely dressed woman stood at the foot of the bed. "Is there anybody in this room?" was her exclamation, in a tone of entreaty. Visions of black-mail colored the first thought of our Hartford friend. "Madam, you must leave my room at once," at the same time taking in the full, Juno-like bust and magnificent hips and superh figure, in a clinging skirt and glove-fitting waist. She looked as if she had been molded into the elegant sik she were. "Indeed, sir, I am in terrible agony. Please unhook my dress. Here in front; do, please." This in agonizing tones that fairly made the gentieman feel the horrible pain the rible agony. Please unhook my dress. Here in front; do, please." This in agonizing nones that fairly made the gentieman feel the horrible pain the lady was evidently suffering. Before he could move she began to sway back and forth, and must have fallen if he had not caught her in his arms. She groaned and grew

Tight Lacing.

Tight Lacing. At this juncture the



chambermaid appeared in the door. The unknown lady again exclaimed: "Cut the dress open; call No. 200!" No. 200 was sent for, the maid and man both exerting their best strength in their fruitiess endeavor to loosen the lady's dress. It was no use. The dress held together like the doors of a Marvin safe. The 'lady, in the meantime, had fainted, and was still more blue about both lips. "Quick!" said our Hartford friend to the maid, bringing his business astuteness into play; "as I squeeze her together, you unhook her dress. Raising the lady up from behind, and grasping her under the arms, he exerted his full strenth in a long and desperate squeeze. The maid tugged at the hooks and eyes, and suddenly there was a snap—"a report," said the gentleman, "like the noise of the explosion of half a dozen parlor matches." The dress flew open just as No. 200, a fine-looking gentleman, appeared at the end of the lounge. He made an exclamation: "What's the matter, Neil?" But Neil did not answer. It tooks once time to bring her back to consciousness. Explanations followed, and our Hartford friend retirred amid a shower of thanks from Nell and her father.

There is more or less danger in tight lacing, but parely has its effects produced a greater dearee of embarrasty.

There is more or less danger in tight lacing, but rarely has its effects produced a greater degree of embarrassment than in the instance here given. It is just as well that fictitious names are given.

A pretty ornament for a window, is a fancy box or jar filled with a clump of growing ferns. Get the roots from the woods just as soon as the snow goes off in the spring. The old fronds will be decayed, and the new ones are wrapped up in little brown coils like a snail-shell. If transplanted then, it will not hurt them, and under the influence of warm air and plenty of water, the little coils will soon begin to unroll and ere long will be beautiful fronds.—Dora Heath.



PRIL.

Pray how can it rain
When the sun is so bright?
In all the blue sky
Not a cloud is in sight,
Save one fleecy bit—
'Bout as large as a hat.
You don't mean to say
There are raindrops in that?
Yes, here they come down!
In spite of the sun,
And folks with new clothes
Might just as well run.

CATARRH CURED.

A clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Prof. J. A. Lawrence, 87 Warren Street, New York, will receive the recipe free of charge.

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SILK SATIN and PLUSH REMNANTS for Crazy Patch. A large pkg. pretty pieces, assorted colors, 10c.; 3 pkgs. 25c. A large pkg. relosors. Embroidery Silk, 20c. Sheet of Crazy Stitches and 32 p. Cat. of Fancy Work with every order. LADIES ART CO., Box 891, St. Louis, Mo.

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sell quick for \$8.00, and on a single for them. Now is the time. MORSE & CO., Publishers, Augusta, Me.

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Now kind friend send me your address to-day. I guarantee that you will not be disappointed with the state of the

THE HOUSEHOLD COMPANION will give \$800 Cash to the 1st person sending a correct solution to the above Rebus. To the 2d, \$200; to the 3d, \$100; to the 4th, a first-class Safety Bicycle, or if a lady an elegant Diamond Ring. To each of the next 5, a SOLID GOLD WATCH. To the next 10, a Beautiful \$25 Silk Dress. To each of the next 50, a Genuine Diamond Ring. To each of the next 50, a cenuine Diamond Ring. To each of the next 100, a valuable Rusiness or House Lot near New York City. The above Rebus makes two words. Answers must reach us on or before June 1st. With your answer send 25c. to contribute the contribute our Hinstrated 16pp. Paper, worts a dollar to our Hinstrated 16pp. Paper, worts a dollar of the course, we have will amounce the result of the course, we have given away over 430,000 of the winners. We have given away over 430,000 of the course, and now have over 250,000 Circulation. Write your answer and name and address plainly. r answer and name and address plainly.
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Besides Other Valuable Presents Given to Those Who Guess This Rebus.

THIS PRES

We will give to the first person from whom we receive the correct answer by mail on or before May 31st, 182, 8200. To the second \$1001 to the third, \$501 to the next five persons a Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 16 yard in Hinck Blue, Green, Brown or Gray, The next 10 a Soild Gold Gennine Dlamond Ring, and to the next 10 sending in the correct answer, 50 week of the next 10 sending in the correct answer, 50 week of the next 10 sending in the creat to the next 10 sending in the correct answer, by mail, we will give \$1001 to next to the last \$50, to the next \$5, the next 6, a Handsome Silk Bress Pattern of 16 yards in one of above colors. To the next 10 selde Gold Genuine Dlamond Ring. Besides these prizes we will give to EVERY FERSON who sends a correct answer a beautiful copy of THE LIFE OF CHRIST and send it to you all charges prepaid by us. With your answer sond 25 cents, postal note of silver, or 30 cents postage stamps for postage and advertising expenses. We make this unparally of the control introduce this splendid work of art, and to send the your can was sers for it at every postoffice, you can make more your can the the agency after receiving it. Can you Catch the lease, Address JAMES LEE, Publisher, Owing's Bidg., Chicago, III.

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Cash, Gold Watches, Sewing Machines,
Silk Dresses, Silverware, Jewelry, &c. FOR SOLVING THIS REBUS.



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TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS IN CASH.

To the Second, \$75 cash. To the Third, a Bag of Gold. To each of the next 5 a Solid Gold Stem Winding Watch. To the next 5 a Solid Gold Stem Winding Watch. To the next 3 an elegans Silk Machine. To the next 3 an elegans Silk Dress Pattern, 14 yards, and to the next 30, should there be as many, each a Set of Silverware. To the person sending in the last correct answer we will give \$50 in cash. To the next last \$5 cash. To the next 25 each a nice piece of Jewelry. With your answer to the rebus send 25 cts. in silver or postal note or 30 cts. in postage stamps for a subscription to our illustrated is page Paper, worth a \$1.00 a year. Paper and prizes will be sent on receipt of answer. As soon as the contest closes, a printed list, giving the names of the successful contestants, will be mailed to each person. This offer is made solely to advertise our Publications and introduce them into new homes. Answer quick and you may get a Bag of Gold and Nasen's Catalogue. Write your answer, name and P.O. address planly, and send subscription money to F. NASON, PUB., 432 CHURCH SI., NEW YORK.



My DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS:

Isn't it glorious to have the snow all' gone, and to get out into the woods and fields again? It seems a pleasure to live, when the air is so sweet and clear, and everything in Nature is waking out of its long

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and everything in Nature is waking out of its long sleep.
You enjoy the flowers, the birds, the trees, everything beautiful that you see around you; but this spring I want you to begin to enjoy them in a new way. I want you to think about them. You have doubtless all read the old story of "Eyes and Negyes" of the two boys who were sent by their father for a walk over the same stretch of country; and on returning, one had seen nothing but a road, a field, and a river, while the other was full of the interesting sights which had greeted his observing eyes. I would like each one of you to be like that second boy. The road over which you go to school, the yard where you play, the walk which seems so familiar—well as you may think that you know them, there is always



DEAR ANT MINERVA . not do yo think ABOUT Mi

MOSE . PAPA Ses it is A TURNE QUE AND MAMMA Egs its tiptilted MI SISTER MOLLY CALLS AT A SHUB AND BROTHER DICKY Ses it is bust A PLANE PUG Sisters Noze Jooks GUST LIKE MINE BUT SHE CALLS HERS A RA-TROOSY NOSE ... Kind is Mi NOZE - is it A tUR-NED UP_ A tiltillED _ A SAUB - A Bow . PUG OR A RATROOSY

YOUR FECHHUNATE NEASE POLLY

something more to see. One of the finest essays I ever read was written by a country girl, who described the appearance of the mile of road which led from her home to the public highway, as it appeared during the changing seasons.

Learn to observe minutely. If there is some special line in which you are interested, such as flowers, birds, insects, rocks, etc., so much the better. I have seen over 30 varieties of wild flowers found in a dooryard of not much more than average size—but not by a careless observer. Do not be above having a "fad." It is the people who have "fads," and work at them, who come in time to be what the age demands, specialists. The field of knowledge has grown so broad that no one person can even skim over it, so most of us are content to work one little corner as thoroughly as we may. "Which is better to know many places ill, or to know one place well?"

Perhaps this is rather a heavy sermon for my very little folks, but you will grow to it, my dears. And for the letters—oh, so many, many of them! I think some day Aunty will be buried in them; if she sudeling disappears, you will know what has become of her.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I think it is so nice for us

denly disappears, you will know what has become or her.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I think it is so nice for us young folks to have a place in your valuable paper. The Comport is an ever welcome visitor to me. I fear we do not appreciate your kindness in giving us a department in the paper like we should. I see in your last issue that my cousin at Gadsden, Tenn., J. Paul Rooker, speaks my sentiments when he says H. Rider Haggard is one of his favorite authors. Gen. Chas. King is another favorite of mine. I am a printer and I know what a bother it is for one to write on both sides of the paper, so I will not bother you any that way. I am studying Brown & Holland's system of shorthand, and if any of the cousins know anything about it I would be pleased to correspond with them.

H. GARDNER, Trenton, Tenn. Gen. Chas. King seems to be a favorite with many

Gen. Chas. King seems to be a favorite with many young people, and deservedly so, for his writings are clear, bright, and exceedingly interesting. I wish that all my boys and girls could read his stories of army life. Have any of you read "Boots and Saddles" by Mrs. Custer? and I would like to hear from some boy who likes "Tom Brown at Rugby."

May I join the happy band of nieces fair that round you stand? You smile so kindly on them all I thought that I must surely call. A sample Comfort came one day, And the owls said, "We came to stay." And so they did, and do you know Our friends are taking Comfort too. Some one says, "Why don't you go,
You are taking time and room you know."
So I will close and say adieu
With love to Auntie and cousins too.
Your new niece, MAUD C. MILLER.
Red Bank Furnace, Clarion Co., Pa.

Our new cousin "drops into poetry" like the re-nowned Silas Wegg. Now who can tell me in what great novel he may be found? I hope no one will make such a mistake as a man I heard the other day, who thought the famous Micawber was in one of Shakespeare's plays. My older young folks will laugh at that, I know.

Dear Aunty:—I will give you a description of the country in which I live. I live in the southwestern part of lows. We have some hills but not very large ones. The soil is very fertile, the principal products are corn, oats, wheat and rye. Potatoes are also very extensively raised in this part of lows. This country

is noted for being the Great Blue-Grass Region of Southwestern Iowa. I suppose some of the cousins have heard of the Coeston Blue Grass Palace. We live 28 miles from there and 75 miles from Missouri river. I am a farmer's daughter, am 14 years old; I enjoy the pure country air. We live on a farm which has lots of stock on it, so I'm among the stock a good deal of the time. Would like to correspond with a girl 13 to 15 years. Your niece,

"Tam a little boy just 11 years old. I live on a farm away up in the blue hills of old Wilkes Co., N. C., 16 miles northeast of Wilkesboro'. I have never had the pleasure of seeing our country seat yet, though papa has promised me I can go shortly and see the train. Dear Aunt, I want to tell you I sent for two copies of the COMPORT. I never have been as well pleased with any paper in my life. I send to-day for a whole year's subscription. I am so well pleased to hear of a people who are trying to help the poor sick and afflicted. Dear Aunt and cousins, it is not that way in this country. Why, I know of two that have starved to death in our neighborhood. Papa and mama knew nothing about it until they were dead. I for one intend to try to do something for my Master. I want all the little cousins to lend a helping hand. I intend to send something to all the 'Shut Ins,' God being my helper. I am going to work and see how many subscribers I can get for the COMFORT. I want to, not for myself but for a sick friend. With many good wishes to Aunt Minerva and all the cousins.

Thomas Long, Springfield, Wilkes Co., N. C."

good wishes to Aunt Minerva and all the cousins. THOMAS LONG, Springfield, Wilkes Co., N. C."

Dear Auntie:—Will you be so kind as to admit into the ranks of your happy company a lonely boy from the old Palmetto State. I received several copies of Comport and was so delighted with the paper I determined to become a subscriber. I was particularly pleased with the correspondence columns and determined to ask admittance to your happy band. I have just completed a 3 weeks' journey over Lexington Co. Like all others I naturally think my home and State the garden spot of the world. While on my rounds I have seen some historical and curious things. Among them was part of an old breastwork near Columbia, which was thrown up during the Revolutionary War. I also visited a house in which Lord Cornwallis had his headquarters. This house has a hole in it made by a cannon ball which passed directly over the bed of a British officer. The owner of the house also has Cornwallis' card table. Among other curiosities I saw Hunter's Rock, which I will describe in the future. Will several of the cousins, both boys and girls, correspond with me. Please write and give more comfort to a lonely boy. Will some officers of the Temperance Union write me full particulars in regard to the organization. I am interested in the cause of temperance and I may be able to help it by means of your society. I remain sincerely,

My dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little country girl and don't know how to write letters that will interest

cause of temperance and I may be able to help it by means of your society. I remain sincerely,
ARTHUR F, HARMAN, Lexington, S. C.
My dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little country girl and don't know how to write letters that will interest the cousins, but they must not laugh at me this time, for I want to tell them what a nice time we had Christmas. We had a Christmas tree at the church, and it was just lovely so many nice and beautiful presents on it; no one was slighted, each scholar got something nice on the tree, also the old folks. The first thing done was the marching. Each Sabbathschool teacher had a banner with an appropriate motto; teachers all marched at the head of their classes, while the choir sang the song, "Onward Christian Soldiers." There were several appropriate songs and recitations from the young folks. The time passed off very pleasantly after the presents were all distributed, and the children made happy. We enjoyed a fine display of fireworks on the outside. We have a fine Sabbath-school at the Presbyterian Church, which I attend every Sabbath. This is one of the oldest Sabbath-schools in Southwest Virginia; it has been in a flourishing condition for more than 30 years. We have a good Superintendent, one who tries to discharge his duty. We also have a fine school which is called the Whitney High School, of which Prof. Rogers has charge. I think we will all like our teacher very much, as he is very kind to the children. We have a nice academy well furnished with all the new improvements. Well, Auntie, I'll bring my letter to a close, with much love to Aunt Minerva and the cousins.

PEARLIE C. Lewis, Dickey, Ga.

You must indeed have had a delightful time at your Christmas tree. I am glad you like your school and Sunday-school so well, my dear Pearlie.

I must not leave out my very little folks, and her is a letter so carefully printed by a dear little girl away out West.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little girl 6 years old. Mama takes COMFORT, and my brother reads it to

is a letter 80 carefully printed by a dear intic girl away out West.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little girl 6 years old. Mama takes COMFORT, and my brother reads it to her. He is 9 years old. He has been to school, but I never have; what I know, he taught me. My mama is sick, and has been for several years. My brother and I do all the work. I can make light bread as good as any woman. I make cake for mama, and cook the meals the same as a grown woman. Wash days my brother helps me. We live 3 miles from the school-house, in a valley in the sand hills of northwestern Nebraska. Our house is made of sod. It is 12x16 feet, with a board roof with sod on it, and one window. Our nearest neighbor is one mile away. I have a little baby sister Il months old, the sweetest baby in the world, I think. I have no pets of any kind. We had a dog and cat and 12 chickens, but they all died this winter. There are lots of coyotes and jack rabbits here, and some gray wolves; we



The new little chickens looked drooping and sad
And Dolly in consequence felt very bad;
Thought she to herself, and she paused in her chatter,
They're cutting their pin-feathers—that's what's the
matter!
E. L. S.

hear them howl very often. We have a rabbit to eat sometimes; we got one yesterday. I like COMFORT, and the children's letters. Good-bye from RUBY E. SHERMAN, Antioch, Nebr. Dear little Ruby, you must have to work very hard. Your mama is fortunate to have two such good children to help and care for her.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little boy 7 years old. I live in a village. My father has a store; when I get older, I will clerk for him. In the summer I go to Sunday-school; my father is the Superintendent. I like it very much. I have a little brother in Heaven. Mama says that if I am a good boy, I will go there when I die. My grandfather gave me a Waterbury watch at Christmas; don't you think he was very kind? With love to the little cousins.

MAXWELL COCKRILL.

Yes, I think you must have a dear, kind grand-

MAXWELL COCKRILL.

Yes, I think you must have a dear, kind grandfather, and a good papa and mama too. Did you know that you forgot to tell me where you live, Maxwell, wasn't that funny?

Now I suppose I must say good-bye until another month. Will you all remember what I have told you about keeping your eyes open, and if you find anything wonderful, just write and tell us about it.

Your loving

AUNT MINERVA.

Free Photos.

We have some elegant Photos of prominent places which we are going to give away to introduce our new Giant Catalogue of Novelties, will send an assorted collection to any one who will enclose a 2c. stamp for postage on MORSE & Co., Augusta, Maine. same-

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<u>VALUABLE PRIZE</u>

SOLVE THIS REBUS.



Every reader of this paper should not fail to enjoy some of the Alice Pansies this summer, which were named by Mrs. Harrison. They description. Their Mammoth Size of odd colors is wonderful, and they have cost me an enormous price to secure them, but they are far a head of all other varieties of Pansies and can be had from no other seedsman. I want to increase their size and will pay \$500 in CASH to any person growing a Blossom measuring 8 in. in diameter; \$2, in. are very common size. See catalogue. For 20c. in silver or 28c. in stamps, I will mail, carefully passing the passing pas

(MR. MILLS is perfectly reliable and trustworthy.-Ed.) We Pay the Express Charges. You Pay **Automatic** Nothing until after Examination. Nothing until after Examination.

Cut this ad. out and send with your order, and we will ship Revolver by Express C. O. D. for you to examine. If you find it as represented, pay the express agent \$5.50 and it is represented, pay the express agent \$5.50 and it is yours. Otherwise you pay nothing and it is returned at our expense. This Revolver is the Genuine American make, not the cheap foreign imitation sold by other houses. It is Full Nickle Plated, Rubber Stock. Center-Fire Entirelength S inches. Weight 16 oz. 32 or 38 Calibre, Long fluted Cylinder, very low curved hammer which will not each hammer which will not earn for home or pocket. When cash with child bullets which will go through a white oak which the description of the control of the c Shell-Ej cting Double-Action REVOLVER only \$5.50 Regular Price, \$14.00 SMITH & WESSON Model. Warranted not to miss fire and to be a Strong and Accurate Shooter.

Words and Music

Not 10c. each, but the entire 600 in one book of 256 pages for 10c. age. No such bargain ever offered before. Remember all the words and music of 600 and songs for 10c. Send at once, and show to your friends when received. Analy shapped for the first of the state of the first of the state of the fisher's child and any of Argyle Mary's dream of Rarty african Captain Megan and Castiain maid Bay of Biscay Beautiful Belis Beautiful Belis Beautiful Bessie Be gone dull care Cornealment Be gone dull care Cornealment Be gone dull care Cornealment Beautiful Bessie Be gone dull care Cornealment Be gone dull care Cornealment Beautiful Bessie Be gone dull care Cornealment Beautiful Bessie Be gone dull care Cornealment Beautiful Bessie Be gone dull care Cornealment Bessie Bessie Concealment Bessie Bessie Bessie Bessie Bessie Concealment Bessie Be sougs for 10
Araby's daughter
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Bachelor's fare
Bacon and greens
Barbary Allen
Bay of Biscay
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Ben Bolt
Bell Brandon
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Blue tail fly
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Barney Brallaghan
Battle of Otterburne
Birds in the night
Birth of St. Patrick
Black-eyed Susan
Brose and butter
Castles in the arer
Chevaller's lament
Coleen Bawn
Come back to Erin
Send stamps

houghts by

AITH the Preacher: There is a time for every purpose under heaven, a time to weep and a time to laugh! This is one of the times to laugh, to send out a loud editorial guffaw, for this morning the blades of our shears were glued together, our inkstand was filled with water, our pens were, one and all greased, and the lid of our desk was firmly screwed down. Saith the Preacher: There is a time to keep silence and a time to speak. This was a time to keep silence. Said John Adams in his old age halting in front of his own monument: "There was a foolish man who never knew when to hold his tongue." We play the most fantastic tricks on ourselves and in the end are forced to cry out like England's great cardinal after his fall:
"We have ventured like little wanton boys that swim on bladders This many summers in a sea of glory, But far beyond our depth."

Among the "bubbles" which in our day and generation have bess.

Among the "bubbles" which in our day and generation have been blown to the people's great delight, may be mentioned De Lesseps' quixotic attempt to pierce the Isthmus of Panama, by which the French people were robbed of many millions of hard earned money, and Dr. Koch's proclamation that he had discovered a remedy to stay the progress of the terrible disease known as consumption. Thousands upon thousands of pallid faces glowed with hope upon reading of these wild promises and thousands even set out on their way to Berlin where they firmly expected to leave all their suffering and come back with the light of a new life in their eyes and the vigor of health in their body and limbs. Poor creatures, they were tricked again, theirs had been but a fool's errand.

But not only does man seem liable at all

of health in their body and limbs. Poor creatures, they were tricked again, theirs had been but a fool's errand.

But not only does man seem liable at all times to be tricked by his fellowman, nature herself is not above fooling him. How many times does she not promise rain or hold out a pledge of fair weather only to change her mind and cry April fool? And how many times does she not spread out before the toiling miner samples of a metal which he eagerly clutches as pure gold, only to be told that it is "fool's gold" (iron pyrites) after he has heaped it up in vast quantities? Not alone however in the wild wastes of mining lands do we come upon weak mortals fascinated by the glitter of fool's gold; such men exist in the very midst of tost, turning from the true metal of honorable callings, sufficient incomes and happy firesides to pursue the phantoms of wealth and preferment, turning from the dingy hues of the homely virtues to follow after the tawdry and tinsel colors of Vanity Fair. Poor deluded creatures, how often they wish themselves back under the vine and fig tree which sheltered them before they joined the "madding crowd," before they had laid aside comfortable homespun for purple and fine linen, before they had exchanged the pleasing hum of the household for the shuffling of many feet on the marble floors of the exchange. It is strange warning us to give preference to the country rather than to the city if we would lead happy lives, we should be so eager to turn our backs on the old homesteads and go to large towns to live. Are not the honors and preferment, are not the noisy pleasures of great cities, are not the shows and pageants of royal residences, all more or less fool's gold? It may be well enough to see for once the pomp and splendor of the passing show, but why wish to tarry there, why be so eager to exchange the comfortable and roomy homestead for the two or or tree little square holes in the wall of some vast hostelry of the metropolis? Cincinnatus and Washington were the only two rulers of

And hurrah for the next one who dies!

Do you really think, dear readers, that there is any man living who would refuse to exchange a humble cot for a princely residence with a park and garden and fair meadow land to go with it? Do you really think that your town or village or city holds a single Diogenes who, if one of our millionaires should halt in front of his little cottage and offer him a chest of gold, would reply: "Thanks, I have no closet room to spare!" We firmly believe that there are many such dear, contented souls in this world, who having a roof over their heads and clothes on their backs, with all the victuals and drink they need, would shake their heads and smile if you were to ask them to move into a spacious dwelling with servants to attend them and horses and carriages at their command. At any rate, here is a little poem which we have just fished up out of the editorial grab bag. It tells of such a person and gives his very thoughts upon the subject. It is entitled:

SIR CRESUS AND I.

oughts upon the subject. It is entitled:
SIR CRCBSUS AND I.
Sir Crœsus dwells in a marble hall
With a slavish throng at beck and call,
And he rests his head on a pillow of silk
And he sleeps on linen as white as milk,
But he sleeps not half so sound as I
on the bed of huskings where I lie;
For his heart beats quick and his blood is hot,
And pleasant slumber cometh not
To listless limbs that ne'er were blest
With that sweet balm, the toiler's rest!
Give all his gold and more to me
I would not Sir Crœsus be.
Sir Crœsus deems no music sweet.

I would not Sir Crœsus be.

Sir Crœsus deems no music sweet,
While I am moved by the lambkin's bleat,
And my heart is touched by the warbling wren,
By the crowing cock and the cackling hen.
Sir Crœsus fears the winds at war;
And the summer heat, it vexeth sore
Sir Crœsus' soul; but not so mine.
I'm as tough as yew, I'm as strong as pine
And I love the storm and I love the blast
For the sunshine always comes at last.
Give all his gold and more to me
I would not Sir Crœsus be!

I would not Sir Crosus be!

Sir Crosus feeds on daintiest food,
With sparkling wine when in drinking mood,
While I have naught in my humble cot
Save what I grow on my garden spot.
Sir Crosus loils on springs of steel,
While upright I, on my bench of deal;
And the brightest skies are dull to him
And a thousand tapers burn too dim;
While warmth and incense come to me
From a single branch of a birchen tree.
Give all this gold and more to me
I would not Sir Crosus be.

In this busy, bustling life of ours we often lose sight of the sweet significance of many of these Christian holidays, and we celebrate them in a perfunctory sort of way as if we even begrudged the few hours which they take from our business. This is to be regretted and especially is it to be regretted that we have allowed the popular observance of the Easter festival to fall into disuse. How rarely do we see nowadays, especially in our large cities and great commercial centres, the "Paas egg" make its-appearance as in the good old days it was sure to do, stained in so many colors and so highly prized by the children of the family? And with the exception of Russia, very few nations have retained the custom of exclaiming upon meeting a friend or acquaintance: He is risen! to which the person addressed made reply: He is indeed risen! By a strange twisting from its original and proper significance—a festival for mutual congratulation, for the exchange of expressions of joy upon the reappearance of the Divine Master, Easter Sunday has in many centres of so-called culture and refinement become a day for selfish indulgence, made manifest by appearance upon the street wearing new bonnets, new gowns, new suits of clothing, new hats and new ornaments. The "Sunday of joy" has become to a great degree a feast of selfishness. Instead of renewing, strengthening and building up our faith in the Divine Master and His teachings we go about looking for compliment, commendation and flattery from the mouths of our fellow creatures. But there is no need of uttering a jeremiad over this state of things. Sooner or later the people discover that the gratification of one's vanity can bring no real or lasting happiness with it. The pride of wealth, all these are good enough in their way, but they don't go far enough. You can't build happiness upon them any more than you could erect a marble palace on a shifting bog. Faith is the one great and glorious foundation to lay your cornerstone

In Arizona, Alabama and Alaska too
And also in Arkansas will "Comfort" meet your view.
In Connecticut and California, very distant states,
As well as Colorado, this "Comfort" circulates.
The District of Columbia, and Delaware as well,
And also fair Dakola, the praise of "Comfort" tell.
In Florida, in Georgia, both man and womankind
Are happy every month when they the welcome "Comfort" find.
In Illinois and Indiana, also Idaho
Like lova, the people well the worth of "Comfort" know.

ALL OVER THE UNION.

Like lova, the people well the worth of "Comfort" know.
And Kansas and Kentucky have quite a population
Who recognize in "Comfort" a delightful publication.
Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan and Minnesota too,
Montana, Mississippi, to "Comfort" give its due.
Missouri and fair Maryland, Nebraska and Nevada,
Take "Comfort" and they find it for their trouble a
rewarder.
New Hampshire and New Mexico, New Jersey and New
York,
Possess a host of people who of "Comfort's" value
talk.

Possess a nost of people who of "Comforts" value talk.

And the pair of Carolinas, North and South are not behind

Subscribing for that "Comfort" in which pleasure they can find.

Ohio, Oklahoma, and Oregon afar,

Have many people who to "Comfort" new subscribers are.

are.
And mighty Pennsylvania has thousands who sub-scribe

scribe
To "Comfort" like Rhode Istanaers, ...

describe.

Both Tennessee and Texas have a quickly growing list of people who each month upon their "Comfort" now insist.

A Mah of subscribers has a very decent share, by their "Comfort"

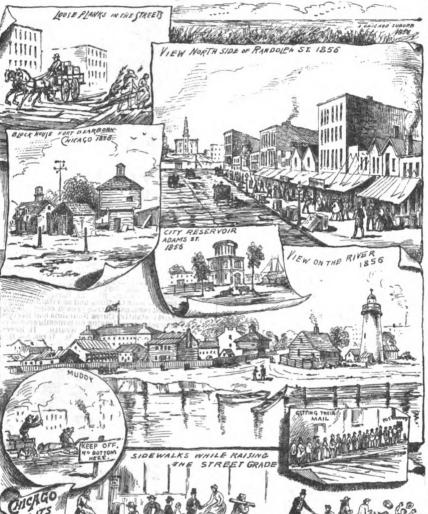
insist.

And Utah of subscribers has a very decent share,
While Vermont and Virginia by their "Comfort"
often swear.

There's Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming for the
last,
Where "Comfort's" big subscription list still keeps

on growing fast.

So as all o'er the Union the paper surely goes
An ad, in "Comfort's" sure to pay, as everybody
knows!



SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 8 ABOUT CHICAGO THE CITY OF THE WORLD'S FAIR

upon, and exactly in proportion as you have serene and childlike faith in human hearts and in divine promises, exactly in that proportion will you come nearer to happiness in this world. Dear readers of Comfort, these words will reach you in plenty of time to make ready your "Pass egg," and thus carry joy to the hearts of the little ones and when they lift their sparkling eyes and ask what it is all about you may tell them. And our word for it, the remembrance will abide with them forever!

An Easy Life.

Many people find it an easy matter to obtain 25c. yearly subscriptions to Comfort and we pages. The 36 piece Tea Set is an especially valuable assortment of China and you can obtain it by securing only 36 Subscribers. We furnish blanks. Sample copies &c. to all who desire to the content of call attention to our Premium Offers on other go to work.

Fine Waterproof Bibs Free.

Our Waterproof Bib is proving a great boom for mothers. It is an indispensable adjunct to every child's and baby's wardrobe, for a child may wear the most expensive dress at meals and other times, and with this bib around its neck, cannot soil its dress with food, milk, or other liquids.

This bib is of large size, made of the best

This bib is of large size, made of the best quality of fine waterproof material, presenting an ornamental pattern of various designs on the outside, and is adapted to fit the neck and breast of children of all ages. They save dollars worth of clothing each year and are a great comfort to have around. Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine, are going to send one free to all who send 10c. for a three months trial subscription to Comport. No mother should neglect this opportunity to secure one for each of her children. If you are already a subscriber you can extend your subscription in this way.

THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY

Is coming right along and "Comfort" has many good things in store for its readers. We are anxious to have all of the three and six months' subscribers renew now and see just what spleudid features "Comfort" is going to bring out through the summer. Thousands of dollars are being expended to bring "Comfort" to such excellence that its fame will be heralded around the world. The pictural feature of Aunt Minerva and the Nieces and Nepheus of opposite page is but one of the many novelies in way of illustrating that "Comfort" has underveay, and we have already ordered another Mammoth Perfecting Press of an entirely new design that will cost nearly Fifty Thousand Dollars, which will be the most narvelous press ever manufactured and enable us to present a paper for a small amount of money superior to anything now being published in the world. Send 25c. to-day for a year's subscription and it will enable you to derive more solid comfort for the coming year than you ever dreamed of. and see just what spleudid features "Comfort" is going ever dreamed of.



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"Y-e-s." Doctor-"Do your-e
other arm."-New York Weekly. er-dictating with your

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CASH AND OTHER PRIZES.

This rebus is a good motto for you to adopt. Rise early and send us your answer. To the first WE WILL CIVE YOU \$200 IN CASH. To the Second, \$100. To the third, \$50. To each of the next five, each a \$50 Sewing Machine. To the next five, each an elegant Silk Dress Pattern. To the next five, each an elegant Silk Dress Pattern. To the next five, each an elegant Silver Table Set. To the next ten, each a Solid Silver Watch; and to mext five, each an elegant Silver Watch; and to mext fifty each a Set of Silver Plated Tea Spoons. We will also give away fifty choice and valuable House Lots in a beautiful and healthy growing town near Brooklyn, on Long Island, NY. With your answer send 25 cents in silver or postal note, or 80 cents in postage stamps for a three months subscription to our illustrated, 16 page Family Journal, The Ingleside. Answers must be sent on or belore the 18th day of June, 1892. Our July issue will announce the result of this contest, with the contest of t

THE INGLESIDE, 16 Murray St., New York City, \$200 Reward if we fall to prove that we give these prizes just as we advertise. Y DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:

My Dear Mystic Friends:

Perchance many who are reading Comfort for the first time, would like to know who the old man in the picture is, whence he cometh, whither he goeth and on what mission. Listen while he tells you.

Oldcastle comes from his home, a large ancient castle in "Mystic Land" to the "Realm of Comfort" each month, that he may meet the "Mystic Friends" who gather here to greet him, and talk over affairs concerning puzzledom. He brings with him a large carpet-bag filled with the enigmas, letters, etc., received from his "Mystic Friends," some of which he gives them each time to solve. A hearty invitation is extended to any reader of COMFORT to become a member of "Our Mystic Band." Send solutions to the following puzzles and some original puzzles for publication and be enrolled as a member. If you cannot make puzzles try to solve some. Address all communications concerning "The Mystic Castle" to Oldcastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y., signing name and address as well as nom deplume every time you write, i will gladly answer the letters that you send me, if you will Inclose a two-cent stamp.

Now I will have a little chat concerning the contents of my carpet-bag this month.

First of all, the solvers to January's "Mysteries" are found to be as follows:

Complete lists:—Eglantine, Hercules, Ruth, W. E. Wiatt, Ed. Ward, Katle Green, Sphinx, Arty Fishel, Ypsie.

Incomplete lists:—Doc, Frank, Buck I. Solver, 14; Waldemer Essay P. A. Stime 12. Read Park Andrews and the service of t

wiatt, Ed. Ward, Katie Green, Sphinx, Arty Fishel, Ypsie,
Incomplete lists:—Doc, Frank, Buck I. Solver, 14;
Waldemar, Essay, P. A. Stime, 13; Beb, 12; Andox, Joste A. Bourjal, Iniz, 11; Ben Net, 10; Delian, Aspiro, A. Penanink, Sunshine, Roland, 9; Remardo, Thinker, Castranova, Jessie, Batterson, A. F. B., Novice, 8; Nettie Simon, Rosebug, 7; Nettie A. Kohadwicks, Philos, Hi A. Watha, 6; Percy Vere, Noah Count, Ich Dieu, Primrose, F. I. Dont, Roy, 5; Ajax, R. Ebus, Merlin, G. Whitzz, Jew V. Nile, Remlap, Bill Arp, Tyro, Sarah Conley, Black Eyed Charley, 4; Lillie May, Nancy Lee, 3; Pat Riot, 2; Will Broadstreet, Zaida, Ernest Beaver, Theo Logy, 1.
Prize-winners,—I. Eglantine, 2, Katie Green, 3, Ruth.

西南西 智

Prize-winners.—1. Eglantine, 2. Katie Green. 3. Ruth.

Specinis.—1. R. Ebus. 2. Iniz.

In awarding the prizes for the best lists, priority of receipt had to be taken into consideration.

Since my last journey contributions have been received from Merlin, 5; Jupiter, H. S. B., Pat Riot, 4; A. Penanink, Aspiro, Neshobe, R. Ebus, Frank, Prof. Mm. Broady, 3; Yysie, Nancy Lee, Jew V. Nile, Edward, 2; Ben Net, Roy, Waldemar, I. "Ethan Allen" will hereafter be known as "Neshobe."

Just now, methinks I hear some voices exclaiming, "I wonder when Oldcastle is going to publish my puzzles!" Dear friends, it is true, many whose contributions were received long since have not seen them in print yet; but do not get discouraged. We will try to make room for these in our next few sissues. Watch out for them! Some of the puzzles were crowded out of our last two issues, this accounts for the misnumbering which has occurred recently.

were crowded out of our last two issues, this accounts for the misnumbering which has occurred recounts for the misnumbering which has occurred recently.

Our Mystic Friend, Alexander Brimner of Arner, Ontario, Canada, is offering some good prizes for contributions. He would be glad to hear from any of the "Mystic Band."

The following letter which I think will interest the Mystic Briends, was received recently:

Holly Springs, Miss., Feb. 24, 1892.

To Castle Comfort and its Mystic Band:

For the last time I enter the "Mystic Castle."

Only a few months have I been with you and to many my name and face are strangers; but I have enjoyed my short sojourn more than words can tell. I hope that the few who know me will not soon forget me. May the Mystic Band prosper and Castle Comfort be filled to overflowing. May my vacant chair be soon filled by one worthier than I. I go to devote my life to the Lord's work. In a few days I enter the novitiate of a religious order. You have only known me as Apache, so as Apache bid you farewell.

Mizpah,

Although our friend has been with us but a short time, yet we have realized his presence and will miss him very much. May God's blessing rest upon him throughout life and prosper him in the noble cause in which he has enlisted.

There are many other things I would like to tell you this month, dear friends, but I have already chatted quite a little and must leave them till I come again. So bidding you a friendly good-bye for this time, I start homeward.

Your dear old Mystic Friend, Oldcastle.

SOLUTIONS TO JANUARY'S MYSTERIES.

No. 266. George Frederick Handel. No. 267. "The Telegraph is the nervous system of civilizathion" No. 268. The Eye. No. 269. Enigmatography.

No. 271.

SHASTRA
HASTIER
ASSUMER
ASSUMER
STUMBLE
TIMBRES
REELECT
ARRESTS 270.

L A S C A R
A M E R C E
S E G A R S
C R A V A T
A C R A S E
R E S T E M

No. 272. Work-man-ship. No. 274.

LEVELER ONONDAGAS

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P
KOB
AIRBR
KIRTLES
ELOMANES
ELOMANES
SINEW
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A L B

A L D E R

A L E C T O R

L D C A S T L E

B E T S O E S

R O T E S

R L S

E No. 275. Comfort. No. 276. Mystic Castle.

MYSTERIES. No. 282. Numerical

le, composed of thirty letters, is an old The 13, 2, 8, 18, 22, 25 is a defensive armor for the

ead. The 1, 14, 7, 21, 19, 1 is a large tree in tropical Africa. The 16, 7, 28, 14, 20 means the present day.

The 3, 7, 27, 5 is the lowest part or foundation. The 23, 9, 10, 17 is a number. The 16, 30, 6 is at the same time. The 18, 14, 16 is the early part of life. The 26, 4, 11 is to bind. The 24, 12 is a pronoun.

The 29 is a pronoun. Dry Ridge, Ky., No. 288. Half Square.

1. False. 2. Notched on the edge like a saw. 3. Moving. 4. The planet formerly called Herschel. 5. A ground of interference. 6. A genus of birds. 7. A month (abbr.) 8. A force, supposed to produce the power of mesmerism. 9. A letter. Bennett, Nebr., HERCULES.

No. 294. Mutation.

Did you ever see a fairy, See an ELF SIT by your side, Talk in manner free and cheery With a show of haughty pride?

I have seen an elfish maiden Sit and chatter with her dear, While his heart with woe was laden, Which her jabber failed to cheer.

Something must be wrong about him,
Which complete I can't explain;
Dearer maidens—do they flout him?
This may cause the inward pain.
Illinois. Dubois, Illinois,

No. 295. Charade.

A long-leaved plant is my FIRST,
Which in the water grows.
SECOND is a cloth measure,
As everybody knows.
THIRD is Mythological
The goddess of revenge—
Are we philosophical
As we together menge?
We must not be too prideful,
Or the whole will us scourge.
Solvers of the "Mystic Band,"
The answer now emerge.
Providence, R. I.,

No. 296. Inverted Pyramid.

No. 296. Inverted Pyramid.

Across. 1. The parting of a cake. 2. The solemnization of marriage among the Romans, by which the bride tasted a cake made of flour, with salt and water, in presence of the high priest, and at least ten witnesses. 3. A division of birds including the true pigeon, (Web. International.) 4. Impure protoxides of zinc collected from the chimneys of smelting furnaces. 5. A town of Austin Co., Texas, (P. O. Guide.) 6. A disease in a hawk. 7. A letter.

Down. 1. A letter. 2. Whether. 3. A laborious drudge. 4. A rippling on the surface of water. 5. The most elevated part of the arm, (Domgl. Med. Dict.) 6. One of the German cavairy of the 14th and 15th century. 7. An excresence growing from the postern to the middle of the shank of a horse. 8. Six pointed stars, (Her.) (Web. Inter.) 9. A town of Harrison Co., Miss., (P. O. Guide.) 10. Comes fully up to. 11. Corners. 12. A bone. 13. A letter.

Brooklyn, N. Y.,

No. 297. Double-Letter Enigma.

Brooklyn, N. Y.,

No. 297. Double-Letter Enigma.
In "toiling mankind,"
In "braver seamen,"
In "happy women,"
In "chierful boys,"
In "children's toys,"
In "children's toys,"
In to Last of the First sat down by the fire,
His thoughts wandered far, far away,
To times which to him were gayer and brighter
And when he was more than a WHOLE.
Wataga, Ills.,

No. 200 Source

No. 298. Square.

1. A book of elements. 2. A kind of cyst. 3. To set with brilliants. 4. To revolt, (obs.) 5. A genus of oirds. 6. Thinnest.
Embden, Me., Guy.

No. 299. Square.

1. One who resolves a sentence into its elements.
To sell. 3. Low. 4. The star fish. 5. To embellsh with variegations. 6. To blush.
Roseville, Ills.,

JUPITER.

No. 800. Square.

1. A pacer.

2. Nautical.

3. Species of wild geese.

4. The linnet.

5. To tempt.

6. To seek again.

PAT RIOT.

No. 301. Square.

1. A genus of plants. 2. A problem difficult of solution, (Nutall.) 3. A saddler. 4. Triangles. 5. Change of place. 6. To manage, (obs.) 7. A plant. Bangor, Pa.,

No. 302. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A title prefixed to the name of a knight. 3. Nightshade. 4. Extended compositions for one or two instruments. 5. Of or pertaining to a pirate. 6. Withdrawn. 7. Fastened with a lace. 8. Melancholy. 9. A letter.

_Odell, Ills., ODELL CYCLONE.

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For the best list of answers to this month's "Mysteries," "Complete Cabinet of Fnn, Wonder and Mystery." Second best list, Year's Subscription to COMPORT.

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Contest closes June 1, 1892. Solvers and prizewinners in July "Mystic Castle."

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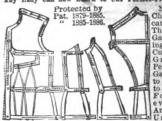
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Supplement for April, 1892

By Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine.

NELLIE NORTH'S "LARK."

A STORY FOR GIRLS.

A STORY FOR GIRLS.

It will be a jolly lark, girls, and I'm going to do it. I'll serve eut old Copperplate in fine style—the cross, hateful old thing." Then there was a giggle of merry laughter.

"Oh! Nellie," said Laura Stanwood, looking at her companion, Nellie North, in great a limitation, "would you really do it?"

"Would I? Yes, indeed, I would and I will. Just you wait and see. I mean to pay old Copperplate out for scolding me the other day just because my writing did not please his lordship. I'll bring him down a peg or two, you see if I don't." Another burst of laughter.

"Besides, girls," continued Nellle, "Idon't like old Copperplate at all, and I think it a shame that Miss Stonor employs such a shabby, poverty-stricken individual to teach us penmanship. Why, he's dreadfully seedy although he tries desperately hard to conceal it. The other day I noticed that his gloves were darned and patched so that you could hardly distinguish what the original color had been. And yet he puts on airs and orders us around as if we were beneath him. But I'll serve him out the dirst chance I get."

Nellie North and her two bosom friends, Alice Parks and Laufa Stanwood, were clustered together in a secluded corner of the grounds surrounding Minerva House, a fashionable young ladies' boarding-school, presided over by a Miss Melpomene Stonor. It was a prosperous school, containing about sixty pupils, all the daughters of wealthy men, and ranging from fourteen to nineteen years old.

Miss Melpomene Stenor had three or four assistants to aid her in teaching the "young idea how to shoot" at Minerva House. Two of these were lady ushers and lived at the school, while the other two were gentlemen living in the vicinity of the school, who came to the institution at regular periods to teach the pupils the accomplishments of drawing and penmanship.

One of these—the writing master—had excited the ire of one of his pupils as the reader knows. Mr. Cass, the teacher of penmanship at Minerva House, or "old Copperplate," as Nellie Nort

ter's condemnation, owing to her indolent, mischlevous habits.

So she disliked Mr. Cass, whom everybody liked, and shut her eyes to his good qualities. She ridiculed him in secret to her schoolmates every chance she got, and exaggerated his humble garb. Nor was this all; she determined to have a "lark" with the hated teacher, to play a trick on him, such as would make him the laughing stock of the school. This was what she was confiding to her friends Alice Parks and Laura Stanwood at the opening of our sketch. These young ladies were a trifle more timid than Miss Nellie, and viewed her bold project with uneasiness, not, however, unmixed with admiration. Nellie North, however, nothing daunted, declared she would put her plan into operation at the earliest opportunity.—It was only the very next day when she saw an excellent chance to play a joke on the writing master. It was his day for teaching the class, and he was in the school-room as usual setting the pupils copies to write and examining their copy books. He had finished his inspection of Nellie North's writing, and had turned to examine that of her neare neighbor, when the madcap saw an excellent opportunity

nsual setting the pupils copies to write and examining their copy books. He had finished his inspection of Nellie North's writing, and had turned to examine that of her nearest neighbor, when the madcap saw an excellent opportunity to play a joke upon him. Hastily taking a square piece of paper, on which was printed some kind of an inscription, she quietly affixed it with the aid of a pin to the tails of the writing master's coat, which were turned toward her. The pupils soon noticed the placard on which was printed the words, "Latest Style; Price \$25," after the manner of a clothing-dealer's price-card, and giggles and smiles arose on every side.

Observing their mirth, Mr. Cass in some surprise sharply asked them the cause of such ill timed glee, whereupon a thin-faced girl, noted as a tatle-tale, told him of the placard which was attached to his coat, and unfastening it, gave it to him. The writing master frowned darkly for a moment as he read the insulting label, but soon his brow cleared and he said, calmly:

"Young ladies, which one of you has done this?"

"Miss North," said the tale-bearer alluded to, "it was Miss North; I saw her."

"Miss North," said the writing master, "did you write this?" and he held up the placard for her inspection.

"Yes, sir," answered Nellie, who sorned to deny her fault, "Very good," answered the writing master. "I will acquaint Miss Stonor with your conduct, and rest assured it will be fittingly noticed by her."

And so it was. Miss Stonor, on learning of her pupil's fault, rebuked her severely, and sentenced her to write out five hundred lines of Virgil—not an easy task—as a punishment.

This took some time for the madcap to accomplish and kept her out of mischief for some time until it was done, but far from being soi vy for the prank she had played on "old Copperplate," she was glad of it, and her dislike for the writing master increased. But he kept a sharp eye on her thereafter and she played him no more tricks. A sort of mutual armistice was arranged between them and pe

Several weeks after this Nellie North was returning home from a visit to the neighboring village when she saw Mr. Cass, the writing master, come out of the door of a cottage near the roadside. This was his home, but she had not known it before. It was a poor looking cottage and evidently the occupant did not possess much wealth. The writing master did not see Nellie North; appeared to be deeply agitated and scarcely able to notice anybody. He set off with rapid strides towards the distant village, while Nellie North looked after him in surprise.



that made me act so Will you forgive me? I accidently learned of your sick little girl and came to visit her."

Of course the writing master, who was despite his sad lot a thorough gentleman, forgave the conscience-stricken girl at once, and turning to his child, said:

"How do you feel, now, Mabelle? Dr. Balus was absent when I went to his office and I could not bring him, but he will be here sometime during the day."

"Oh! I don't need him now, papa," said the invalid, "I am much better."

Nellie North stayed for some time talking to her, and at length took her leave, promising to call again. She was much pained by the memory of her thoughtless conduct in ridiculing the noble minded school teacher, and she resolved to atone as much as possible for her former behavior. She did so, and ever after the poor writing master had no firmer friend and admirer in the school than the pupil who had so formerly



THE LATE POSTMASTER GENERAL OF ENGLAND ACCOMPANIED BY HIS DAUGHTER.

Success Under Difficulties.

The recent sporting accident to Prince Christian at the mouth of the gunbarrel of his nephew-whom "Punch" calls the Duke of Con-naughty-revives recollection of a similar accident years ago when at the untoward hand of his father Henry Fawcett, Gladstone's last Postmaster-General, lost both eyes by bird shot entering them during a game hunt. There is also recalled the young man's heroic, instantaneous speech when he heard his parent's self-accusing reproaches and grief: "Never mind, father, blindness shall not interfere with my success in life."
It did not, and one of the pathetic sights in London streets long afterward was Henry Fawcett, M. P., led everywhere by a faithful daughter, herself a lady distinguished for intellect, and who remained purposely single in order to minister as amanuensis and guide to her plucky father.

man may engage that is not worthy of his best efforts. It is quite likely of course that a man may be engaged in the genial occupation of getting blood out of a stone; he may be so situated that no matter what he does it will count for practically nothing. There are such cases but all this time there is going on a process of preparation that is absolutely necessary for the future. It is the unexpected that always happens and sooner or later something turns up and if you are the right man the future is secure. That is why the good book says, "the that is faithful in small things shall rule over many." The man who attracts attention to himself as a worker in a subordinate position will soon be called up higher.

The following article shows the humerous side of the subject of blindness:

There lives in Paris a certain count who is very popular, although he is blind. Being witty and musical, his society is much sought after. He left Paris three months ago, and, on his return, called on a fashionable marchioness, who was preparing to go to a fancy ball. Being blind, he was asked to take a seat in her boudoir. Gossip ensued, and, during all the time, the marchioness, assisted by her maid, executed the mysteries of her toilet. Being ready to descend to her carriage, the count stated that he had been absent in London, and had undergone a successful operation for cataract, and could now see as well as the marchioness. The latter shrieked, and jumped into her carriage, the count stated that he had been absent in London, and had undergone a successful operation for cataract, and could now see as well as the marchioness. The latter shrieked, and jumped into her carriage without even an au reroir.

One of the interesting families in London who have however always had good sight is that of the Dickenses. In a recent interview, Charles Dickens, the son of his father, said: "My sister Mary, the second of the family, is unmarried and manages a typewriting establishment in this very building. My second view of the process of the



IN AN OPEN LETTER A MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL ABOUT TO RESIGN HIS PASTORATE SAYS:

"Some months ago through the advice of friends I began taking Oxien as a remedy for Nervous Prostration which was so troubling me that I was doing my work with great diffi-culty, and my Sabbath work left me with so severe a headache and other nervous troubles that life was almost a burden and I laid my plans to leave my charge; but your Oxien has so helped me that I am doing my work easier than I have before in five years. I have a number of friends now who want some of the Oxien. Please give me terms and if you desire I will do what I can for the sale of your Oxien.

Rev. Wm. Hoyt, Corrunna, Mich."

Not only are Ministers helped and gured but we receive many testimonials from doctors and others, who speak in strong terms of the great benefit derived from the use of this Wonderful Food. Write to-day to Giant Cxie Co., Augusta, Maine, for free sample and learn about the Oxien Electric Porous Plasters also.

Little Brown Jugs Given Away.

There has been a great demand for these Little Brown Jugs of late and the publishers of Comport have had a million made to give away to their subscribers; they have generally sold for 10c. each at the stores and are very popular to wear on watch chains or around the neck for charms. Men, women and children wear them, and to make Comport more popular Morse & Co. will give one free to any one sending 2c. for postage, or when sending 25c. for subscription or renewal of same say you want a jug and we will pay postage ourselves. We want everybody to have one and have them for sale by the hundred if any society desire them in quantity for badges.



AGAIN IN ITS GRASP.

Fully 50 per cent, were destined never to recover. Many families were extinguished entire. Many were torn apart and the few remaining members left with the memories of a once happy home.

Thousands were brought to a bed of suffering for the remainder of their life. Thousands more were left subjects for the mad house.

The heroic endeavors of the medical profession saved many of those who were stricken with La Grippe, but in most of those cases the saving of life was but to prolong the misery, for it is well known that wherever the monster sets its seal, it is sure to leave unfavorable results, but in the past record of the distemper it has been proven that that little plain, simple tablet called OXIEN, had a large sized mission to perform in this one particular, and how well it did its duty is attested by the numerous lefters received from our grateful friends. Oximprobably did more to ward off La Grippe, lessen the suffering, and effect a complete cure than any or all of the advertised remedies.

The dreaded disease takes a ready hold of the spitem unprepared to withstand its ravages and it is a duty you all owe to your friends and relatives, to be fortified upon the arrival of the first symptoms. How shall we do this?

Keep a supply of the food on hand. When you feel a slight cold coming on, look out, it is the warning note. The sneezing, hacking and coughing is the messenger of warning sent you. Commence taking the tablets as directed and you will note with leasure the results. No great bottle of medicine to dose from. A supply for the day can be carried in the vest pocket. The busy man's companion and friend. Pleasant, Effective, Inexpensive.

Do not wait until La Grippe has you in bed or on the way to the grave, for the Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, will send you without charge a sample package if you apply this month, together with new special directions so you can use it as a hot beverage. For it is during the Spring months that you will need just this sort of a drink to carry off the impurities in the

Oh, Mr. Coon.
Old Joe.
Ole Pee Dee. "
Old King Crow.
Oh, Arabella.
Poor old maids.
Pesky Ike.
Paddy Snap.



MILTON DICTATING PARADISE LOST, TO HIS DAUGHTER.

The late Postmaster-General of England, Mr. Fawcett, was totally blind. Yet notwithstanding this heavy affiletion Mr. Fawcett was one of the most efficient public officials England ever had and did much to introduce many reforms into the postal system of Great Britain. It seems almost incomprensible that a man so situated could attain eminence in any direction to say nothing of becoming one of the foremost men in a country so noted for its brilliant men. But similar examples are not wanting and go to show what an indomitable will can accomplish even under the most discouraging circumstances. It is worthy of note in this connection that the daughter of Mr. Fawcett succeeded in winning the post of Senior Wrangler in the great college at Oxford. This is an achievement in scholarship that is without parallel even in the history of Oxford which extends back to the days of King Arthur the Great nearly a thousand years. Miss Fawcett's success attracted attention throughout the whole civilized world. No woman before had ever accomplished anything like it and the post of Senior Wrangler has rarely been filled except by men who in after life became highly distinguished.

The back bone of the Secession movement in our own country was supplied by Alexander Stephen, a

rarely been filled except by men who in after life became highly distinguished.

The back bone of the Secesssion movement in our own country was supplied by Alexander Stephens, a man who for the greater part of his life lay at death's door. His was the brain that directed the Confederate Cabinet and his the skill that planned the foreign alliances that were so nearly successful. When Lincoln, who had heard much of Stephens, met him for the first time he was thunderstruck at the diminutive sickly man who stood before him. Stephens wore a great big ulster and Lincoln looked to see a great big gure emerge. "Well," he remarked with one of his peculiar smiles, "you are the smallest pea in the biggest pod I ever met." If Stephens had succumbed to his physical ailments he would have been nothing but a burden to himself and his friends; but he went bravely to work and achieved greater renown than nine men in ten could with all the advantages of health and strength.

bravely to work and achieved greater renown than nine men in ten could with all the advantages of health and strength.

The story is also told of a man in London deprived of both-legs and arms who managed to write with his mouth and perform other things so remarkable as to enable him to earn a fair living. He would lay certain sheets of paper together pinning them at the cornor to make them hold. Then he took a pen and wrote some verses; after which he would proceed to embellish the poem by many skillful flourishes. Dropping the pen from his mouth he next took up a needle and thread also with his mouth threaded the needle and thread also with his mouth threaded the with a brush and in many ways was a wonderful man. Instead of being a burden on his family he was the most important contributor to their welfare.

John Milton who wrote "Paradise Lost," the finest epic poem in the English language, was totally blind and dictated the poem to his daughters. Alexander Pope another brilliant name in English letters was also sadly deformed physically and tortured by constant headaches. He was glad when the time came to lay down his burden, yet this poor misshapen fellow enjoyed the society of all the great men of his day and has left a name that is imperishable.

And so the list might be extended. It is of great value in demonstrating the importance of unremittent effort. Almost everything gives way before perseverance. There is no human occupation in which a

sister was named after Macready, the actor. With regard to myself, I edit 'All the Year Round,' and 'Household Words' as well. I have, also, a large printing business, and in the winter I travel all over the country giving readings from my father's works, the same as I gave in America. They are those that he used to read himself."



THE BLIND COUNT HAD BEEN SUCCESSFULLY OPERATED UPON.

Nellie North's "Lark."

derided him. She often visited his sick child and they became great friends. She interested her schoolmates in the invalid, and poor Mabelle Cass's weary life was rendered much pleasanter by their kindness, until the day came when she went to the Eternal Heritage awaiting her, and required no further earthly care. As for Nellie North, she is not so thoughtless now; she has learned that the coat does not make the man.

MAKING ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS A DAY.

One lady wrote to the GIANT OXIE CO., Augusta, Maine, that she was selling Oxien at the rate of ten dollars worth each half-bour. Any one wishing to do the same should write to-day for free samples and particulars.

THE DIAMOND COLLECTION OF SONGS

Over 600 Songs, and Every One a Gem. Words and Music Complete. THIS BOOK IS A VERITABLE TREASURY OF THE WORLD'S POPULAR SONGS.

** The Finest Collection of Songs, both new and old, ever bound between the covers of one book."—N. Y. World.

"The Finest Collection of Songs, both new and old, ever bound between the covers of one book

CONTENTS:
All, how death.
All horus.
All, how song.
All der song.
Al

Rory O'Moore.
Robin Adair.
Reel o' bogie.
Ruby.
Save the boy.
Speak to me.
Shule Agrah.
Sweet Annie.
Speed away.
Shabby genteel.
See saw.

All the above, and 316 other songs, including the great popular song. "Comrades," are contained in this incomparable 30 CENTS book. This great collection of over 600 songs, words and music, sent by mail postneid for the first state of the substrainty of the su



MORSE & CO. Augusta, Maine,

OW do you do my young friends? Are you out for a lark this fine April evening? Well, you had better have taken an umbrella, for I can begin to feel a few drops of rain now. Oh how treacherous are these April days. Well, all come over to my house and wait until the shower is over, and maybe you can help me answer some of these young people's letters. Therel ain't that a pile of letters? And I am sure you can pass a pleasant evening reading them over, it will seem almost like meeting the young people who have written them, and I am constantly meeting them in this way, and some of them seem almost as near to me as you young folks who live right around our house. And you know you all call me Uncle here just as if I really stood in that relation to you. So many long descriptions of the trip around the world have come in that I have decided to postpone the decision until May first, as they must all be read and compared, so as to do justice to the best. I will here mention one I have from Hortons Bay, Mich., which is very comprehensive and a letter which shows much care and study in its preparation. And now when we have looked at a few more of them we will lay them aside for another time and tell this boy out in Oklahoma about the ship load of food which has gone to the sufferers in Russia. The good ship Indianaise her name and that good man Captain Sargent is to have command of her on her errand of mercy across the sea, and may good luck attend him, and may he deliver his precious freight safely, and may you all learn a lesson in charity from this noble example. I often wish they might have a ship load of the coins this boy asks about. The florin, one of the most famous of modern coins, originated in Florence, some going so far as to say it gave the name to the city, while others claim its name comes from having a fleur de lis on one face. Very few French gold pieces are now in circulation, except those bearing the head of Napoleon III. The word shilling is of German derivation, like penny which comes from the German



A LITTLE PUSH WILL OPEN THE DOOR TO SUCCESS

straight out with both hips on the same line, and the toe will be the first to strike the ground. In a pugilistic encounter we are taught to strike from the shoulder and not from the elbow; in pedestrianism we are taught to walk from the hip and not from the knee, the knees should be used by all of us more for devotion than pedestrianism. However I want all of you to step out with decision, set your heels down as if you meant to win and in whatever occupation you may be called upon to exercise your capabilities use push, for a little push in the early years and in all things will open the door to ultimate success in life. Do not allow the idea to enter your heads that there is a royal road to fortune or education, over which road your money or friends will pull you, but start at the bottom and push.

And we must all feel the enlightening influence of beautiful things more and more. Goethe has said, "A man should hear a little music, read a little poetry, and see a fine picture every day of his life, in order that worldly cares may not obliterate the sense of the beautiful which God has implanted in the human soul." And what is more beautiful than the peacock in full feather? and yet this bird has always been looked upon with superstitious awe by the most of people, but now I presume this bird will come forward in the ranks of the favorites, since the innovation by Henry Irving where in the banqueting scene in "Henry VIII" a peacock was brought upon the stage in full plumage, on a silver salver. In many parts of the world the possession of the feather of a peacock lias been considered a bad omen. The Egyptians had a little narrative about the feathers in the peacock's tail as the emblem of an evil eye, or an ever watchful traitor in the house. However, there are many good things said of this beautiful bird with the homely feet and horrible voice. Although many of these superstitions are only things of the imagination, yet we are often caused to laugh at some of the absurd situations brought about by the power of

winter. Recently it was decided to warm the church and the old ladies with one voice protested against the innovation. "We shall be suffocated," they declared. "We shall be carried out fainting." One morning when they arrived for their devotions they found half a dozen stoves set up in different nooks and corners of the cathedral. In the course of the service, therefore, three of the old ladies fainted. "We knew how it would be," they afterward said to the dean. But the dean confounded them by assuring them that the new stoves had never been lighted. And how much better for all of you young boys to be able to say that that filthy cigarette had never been lighted, for if you could see them made it does not seem possible to me that any one of my nephews would ever allow one of them to touch his lips. If you must smoke, and feel that you cannot survive if you do not smoke, get a decent looking pipe and some good tobacco and smoke decently, and do not try to inhale the smoke to ruin your lungs, and drive you into an insane hospital or an early grave. By the way are you not all proud of our noble President for the stand he took in the recent Chilian squabble, apology and reparation are two large words, but he had a large number of the finest young and old men on this terrestial globe to back up his demands, and I am sure this affair will be a lesson to other young bantam roosters like Chili, not to brag so much on their crow because they have not the spurs to back it up with, and humble pie is not pleasant pie to eat, and must go down much as did the dinner of the wealthy man who recently gave a grand banquet to some friends, among them being the "Spectator" of the Christian Union, who goes on to describe the appointments and the company of about sixteen who were present to partake of the bounty of their friend who had given carte blanche to a noted chef, as also an equally famous decorator, and at the head of this feast sat the host with a costly bowl before him containing simply bread and milk, this being the exte

this feast sat the host with a costly bowl before him containing simply bread and milk, this being the extent of the indulgence which his doctors permitted to him.

The independence of the American people as a class is very clearly brought to our vision by a recent statement coming from the Census Office, showing the distribution of paupers in almshouses by individual ages, it appears that the average age of almshouse paupers is fifty one years, or six years more than it was ten years ago. The number of male paupers under thirty years of age and that of female paupers under forty years of age are actually less than the numbers returned in the census of 1880, and of course are still less relatively to the total population, which in my mind shows us that the people do not go to such places for a home except in very isolated cases, and that they go then only as a matter of necessity, and not from choice. The object of the Bureau of American Republics, generally stated, is the collection and diffusion of information between the several southern countries, represented at the conference recently held, and the United States, and also the encouragement of the study, by the people of this country generally, of the interesting republics between the Rio Grande and the Straits of Magellan, and in connection with our friendly relations with southern countries, an officer of the navy, detailed for that purpose, is now in Spain superintending the construction of a caravel, which is to be an exact fac-simile of that in which Columbus made his first voyage of discovery. It is to be equipped in the same way and manned by Spanish sailors in the costume of 400 years ago. This vessel will be completed and brought to the United States in time to participate in the naval review that is to take place at New York in April, 1893, and will be towed through the lakes to Chicago, to remain during the exposition. It will then return to Washington, and be permanently moored in the river south of the executive mansion. And here is a boy who w



DRAWING HIS OWN CONCLUSION.

And then if in after life you are not pleased with the selection you will not feel inclined to censure

Your loving

UNCLE JOSEPHUS.

Spring Work About the Farm

Should not prevent your getting up a club of at least a Dozen Subscribers to Comfort, as it will become especially interesting through the summer months with the new features to be added. For a club of twelve you can secure the Photo Outfit and Dictionary mentioned on this page, and for 36 sub-scribers the Tea Set is given free. We have many other Premiums also and you can obtain most any article desired by devoting a few spare moments to the work-make the most of your opportunities.



Fun for the Million!



Here you are, boys. Just the thing for a little harm-less MASQUEEADING. These mustaches are made of the best material. GENUINED. They have a wire attachment, allowing them to be fastened to or removed from the face with case, and when worn cannot be easily told firm the real production of razor and soap. Boys and young men can have LOTS OF FUN by putting them on in a growd of friends,

cents; goatees 5 cents each; four for 15 cents; one dozen cents, mailed postpaid.

FALSE BEARDS AND SIDE WHISKERS.

FALSE BEARDS AND SIDE WHISKERS.
There is nothing that will so completely change one's appearance as a false beard. A boy can be instantly transformed into a middle-aged man, that even his parents would fail to recognize. We have two styles, "pull beards and "side winskens with mostacine," as shown in illustrations They are suitable for masquerabing pareties, private the Athicals, tableading pareties, private the Athicals, tableading pareties, private the and young men can have any amount of fin by putting them on at evening pareties or elsewhere. The transformation is wonderful and we guarantee that the wearer of one of our beards will not be recognized by his nearest friends or relatives. They are made from good material nicely crimped, which gives them a wavy, natural appearance. We have a full assortment of colors, white, gray, incl. Light brown, dark brown, made for good material sidely crimped, which gives them a wavy, natural appearance. Use have a full assortment of colors, white, gray, incl. Light brown, dark brown, made for good material sidely crimped, which gives them a wavy, natural appearance. We have a full assortment of colors, white, gray, incl. Light brown, dark brown, made for good material sidely crimped, which gives them a wavy, natural appearance. We have a full assortment of colors, white, gray, incl. Ack. In ordering send a small bock of hair, or state color of beard desired. Price of FULL BEARD, as shown in cut, 60 cents; price of stipe whiskers with mustaches, 60 cents; four of either for \$2.00, sent by mall postpaid. Address MORSE & CO., Augusta. Me.



eep their nose clean anyhow. We got these
tty articles for a GRAND PREMIUM OFFER e hdk. for 12c., 3 for 30c., 1 doz., MORSE & CO., Augusta, Me.

EMNANTS FOR CRAZY DATE FOR CRAZY PATCHWORK



ART in needle-work is on the ad-vance. We know the ladies delight in odd pieces of silk and satin,— "CRAZY QUILT"

COMFORT PUB. CO., Box 999, Augusta, Maine. BETTER YET. To all answering this ad. before 30 days we will also send 6 pieces of elegant PLUSH FREE. They come in Red, Blue, Green, Old Gold, etc.

Please mention Convort when you write

AND OUTFIT COMPLETE - All

A GENUINE PHOTO-TAKING MACHINE, NOT A TOY, But a Perfect Picture Producer, to be set up and

But a Perfect Picture Producer, to be set up and used in any home.

In the line of our hundreds of low priced and reliable specialties, we now manafacture this Complete Photographing Outfit, which will be our leader during the coming season. This outfit consists of everything shown in cut and mentioned below; A strong and perfectly made CAMERA, which will take a picture 21-2 inches square, complete with adjustable holder for Plate and PERFECT LESS with cap; A package of the renowned "Harvard Dry Plates; 2 Japanned Tin Developing Trays; I Printing Frame; 1 package Blue Process Paper; 1 sheet Ruby Paper; 1 package Photo Mounts; Hyposulphite Soda; Developing Chemicals; complete and explicit instructions, enabling anyone to take any class of pictures with this Outfit. Now please remember that you are not buying a Camera onx; but a complete and perfect outfit, all ready for use without further expense to you. No such Outfit has sold heretofore for less than \$5.00. Everything is camera onx; but a complete and perfect outfit, all ready for use without further expense to you. No such Outfit has sold heretofore for less than \$5.00. Everything is camera onx; but a complete and perfect outfit, all ready for use without further expense to you. No such Outfit has sold heretofore for less than \$5.00. Everything is complete and perfect outfit in a such as any class of pictures. You can take Landscapes, Portraits, Buildings, in fact any packed in a wood case for shipping. Be your own l'hotographer. How many places of interest and friends that are dear, do you encounter every day whose image you would like to preserve? With this Outfit you can do it and almost without expense. It contains all the necessary materials. The instructions "do the rest," PRICE ONLY \$1.00 by express, by mail postpaid \$1.15, Given for a club of 8 subscribers to Compore at 26 cents each.



DO YOU WANT THIS BEAUTIFUL TEA SET FREE

Yes, actually Given Away for a Few Hours' Work.

Yes, actually Given Away for a Few Hours' Work.

Our Jewel Tea-set which we illustrate above is beautifully decorated on the finest English ware. If there is any one thing that is a woman's comfort it is nice china. There is nothing more beautiful or more useful than a nice set of beautiful decorated lishes. We have imported a large quantity of these beautiful Tea-sets which we intend to use as premiums to increase the circulation of COMPORT. Each set is carefully packed in a box, and unless carelessly handled in transportation will go safely to any part of the United States. This set consists of 56 pieces, viz: Tea-pot, sugar bowl and pitcher, 12 cups and saucers, 15 tea plates, 2 cake plates, 12 preserve dishes, and one slop bowl. Each set is tastefully ornamented. We have them in a number of different designs, also in different colors. Each design is entirely new, and the shapes of the pieces are the latest pattern. By it is as handsome a tea-set as one could wish, and will make an elegant and \(\text{vel} \) will be member this is genuine English ware. We give this beautiful Tea-set for only 30 yearly subscribers at 25 cents each, or 24 subscribers and 83.00, or 20 subscribers and \$4.00. We offer it for saile at \$6.00. It must go by express or freight, receiver to pay express charges when sent as a premium or purchased. Really it is a small affair, you may say, this getting 25-cent pieces from my friends for subscriptions to "COMPORT," yet you know it is an easy matter for you to try, and you will surely succeed in obtaining some of this beautiful CHINA FREE, if you but set yourself about it, for COMPORT is WHAT WE ALL WANT, and what we live for. So take it us among your friends and see how anxious they all are to take COMPORT. Every month will bring new features, and, only think, a whole year of "COMPORT" for only 25 cents. No matter how many papers or magazines they are now taking, there will be so many new thoughts in our monthly that after once subscripting they will keep at it always. Now send 36 subs



A PENNY'S WORTH OF STRAP OIL.

APRIL.

The month of April is one of the most popular months of the year. The first balmy days of Spring come in April and the trees and grass put forth their tender shoots. The foliage is never so fresh and green as it is toward the end of April and the month is a favorite one with the painters. Bleating lambs on the hillside with pink blossoms on the trees serve to enchant the artist and the result is that many delightful canvasses have the oft-repeated title, "An April Day."

The month starts out with a celebration as

unique as it is mysterious. The singular practices incident to the First of April are not alone confined to our own country nor even to civilized countries, but similar customs exist among the Hindoos and other people who cannot be said to have an intimate acquaintance with the manners of civilized nations. There is no definite solution of the origin of the day but

That is, he gives some simpleton a note telling him at the same time that it is a request for something important or the loan of an article and starts him to a friend some two miles off. In reality the note contains a line to the effect that it is the first of April and the bearer is engaged in the time honored sport of "Hunting the Gowk." Whereupon the friend with a grave face regrets that he is unable to oblige, but if he will take the note to another person, likewise two miles off, he will get what he wants. No. 3 treats him in the same way and so on he goes till some one of the series taking pity on him gives him a hint of the joke. A successful affair of this kind will keep an average Scotchman laughing for a week.

And the funny thing they do is to send all the

And the funny thing they do is to send all the small boys they can reach to the cobblers for a penny's worth of strap oil. This of course means a hearty application of a strap to the youngster's shoulders much to his disgust and astonishment. He returns much crestfallen only to be received with shouts of laughter by his companions.



It sometimes happens as it did in London some years ago, that the opportunity is taken by some practical jokers to impose on a whole community. A vast number of people on that



the fact remains that it is celebrated the world over and is the cause of great merriment.

In Scotland the idea of fun on that day takes rather a peculiar course. But then there is no accounting for what a Scotchman thinks is fun. Sydney Smith says that the only way to get a joke into a Scotchman's head was by a surgical operation, and although he doubtless referred to an English joke the fact remains that ordinarily speaking the Scotchman has no humor in his soul. Consequently on April Fool's Day he practices what he calls "Hunting the Gowk.



THE ESCAPE OF THE DUKE OF LORRAINE.

occasion received cards containing the following invitation:

TOWER OF LONDON.

ADMIT BEARER AND FRIEND TO VIEW THE ANNUAL CEREMONY OF WASHING THE WHITE LIONS ON SUNDAY, APRIL 1ST, 1860. AD-MITTED ONLY AT THE WHITE GATE.

The trick was particularly successful and all day long the streets in the vicinity of the Tower were black with cabs vainly seeking The White Gate. A more disgusted lot of citizens it would be hard to find, when the hoax finally dawned upon them.

it would be hard to find, when the hoax finally dawned upon them.

France is very much given to April fooling, but on one occasion their love for sport cost them two distinguished prisoners. Francis, Duke of Lorraine and his wife were in captivity in Nantes. Disguised as peasants, the one bearing a hod upon his shoulder and the other a basket of rubbish they both at an early hour of the day passed through the gates of the city. A woman having knowledge of their persons ran to the guard with the information for the sentry. "April fool!" laughed the soldier, and the whole guard to a man echoed "April fool!" Before the error was discovered the escaped prisoners were out of reach.

April is also noted for the period of religious services celebrated during the month. When Lenten season begins it puts an end to all social gayety till the Summer season sets in. After the 40 days of fasting, Easter Sunday is joyously observed throughout the world, it falls upon the 17th of April, this year. Fastday is generally observed as an old Puritan Landmark, and the day set apart for this religious service is queer enough, now the opening of the base ball season in New England. It generally comes on the third or fourth Thursday in April. Whatever marriages are in the near future are celebrated in April rather than May. Brides dislike May and the old superstition regarding May wed-



THE ORIGINAL THIRTY.

dings cannot be dispelled. Thus it happens that Hymen is particularly busy during the month of April.

The sixth of May is somewhat conspicuous in ancient history as it marks the death of Richard the Lion Hearted, whose crusades in the Holy Land are familiar to all students of Bible history.

April has been robbed of the constant of

history.
April has been robbed of many days, having April has been robbed of many days, having been brought as low as 24. But when Julius Cæsar rearranged the calendar he gave it back its original thirty and there it has remained ever since.

OUGHT TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

Have you ever been troubled with kidney disease Or a very disorganized liver?
Have you ever experienced loss of all ease When an ague puts you in a shiver?
I can tell you the quickest of cures ever seen, And indeed you should not be without it, For I've been in the habit of trying OXIEN, So I ought to know something about it!
Have you suffered from nervousness time and again, From weariness, ennul, exhaustion?
Have you gone to bed often with wild, throbbing brain And of sleep got not even a portion?
If you'd like a good remedy, rapid and sure, OXIEN is its name, and don't doubt it,
For I use it whenever I'm needing a cure, So I ought to know something about it!
Are you martyr at all to disease of the throat?

Are you martyr at all to disease of the throat?
Is your heart or your lungs out of order?
Have you signs of consumption, however remote,
Or any neuralgic disorder?
I have told you the cure—'tis the Giant OXIEN,
And from the hilltops I will shout it,
It has given me relief when afflicted I've been—
So I ought to know something about it!

J. S.

NICKEL PEN KNIFE FREE.

To introduce our Novelty Catalogue goods we will send free for 4 cents, mailing expenses, a 3 bladed Nickel-handle Knife. Nice for everyone; first-class pencii sharpener, nail cleaner, etc.; has ear spoon and toothpick attached. Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine.



WHOLE TABLE-LOAD OF FUN

CARL has gotten together this great &c., assorting up the best from an im that we just purchased for 10c. on the do our great line of Novelties, Books, Magi tus. We are going to give away a cert collections with our catalogue of Fancy the largest dealers in this line of goods cannot half illustrate this grand cabinete only name a few of the articles sent with game of Authors, 48 cards, set Dominoe Boards and men for same, Fox and Good and the sent works, Calivoyant, &c., Fortun Parlor Goods, Calivoyant, &c., Fortun of which we send units, Whistie order, of which we send units, Whistie order, and get orders for some in your localing packing, &c. You can probably dispose care to use in the lot for a good large will send 2 lots for 25c. or 5 for 50c. if you a quantity around home. Address



WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.
This Weather Waroing will faithfully forecast the weather fee the ensuing 24 hours, so that you can get your own weather report without waiting for the newspapers to tell you what is weather report is to be. It is a cyclone warning. When the weather is going to be wet, a fine noble dog arrises from his kennel back in the distance, and approaches the opening (see illustration above), giving a signal that there is a storm-proaching, and as the storm subsides, or if it will be over duing the next 34 hours, a butterfly in all its splendor appearshed you that sunshine is at hand, to gladden the hearts of many of the control of the co

DISCOVERY WHICH REVOLUTIONIZES THE STAMPING OUTFIT BUSINESS.

FOUR COMPLETE ALPHABETS AND 185 LARGE AND ARTISTIC PATTERNS

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of which are named below.

Set of 26 Initials I inches high.
Complete Alphabet.
Design Love Lies Bleeding 6x7 in.
Outline Design Boy with Wagon 7 in.
Spray Wheat 3 in. high.
Corner design Fuchsias and Lily-ofBird.
(the-Valley 5x5 inches.
Crescent of Wild Roses and Buds.
Design Lady's Bust 5 inches high.
Design Lady's Bust 5 inches high.
Design Sunflower 6 inches high.
Half Wreath Daisies 8 inches high.
Outline Design Girl 7 inches high.
Cluster Grapes 3 inches for mapkins.
Corner Design Paisies 6x6 inches.
Corner Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 in.
Design for silk embroidery 3 in. wide.
Design Acorns and Leaves 9 in. high.
Braiding Patterns 2½ inches wide.
Design For flannel skirt 4 inches high.
Design for shaving case 5 inches high.
Des for tinsel embroidery 5 in. wide.
Design for shaving case 5 inches high.
Des for flannel embroidery 2½ wide.
Scallop Design with Eyelets.
Outline Design of Girl for tidy.
Spray of Jonquil 6x7 inches.
Cluster Roses and Grasses 4 inches
Monse.
Design Pansies 6 inches high.
Design Pansies 6 inches high. Set of 26 Initials 1 inches high.

Mouse. (high. Design Pansies 6 inches high. Design Pond Lilies 5x6 inches. Cluster Fuchsias 4x10 inches. Corner Design Fuchsias and Lilies of Chicken. (the Valley 7x7 inches. Half Wreath Wild Roses and Buds Butterfly. (6x6 inches. Design Good Luck 4-Leaf Clover and

185 beautiful and well-mac

1 Alphabet 1½ inch high.
1 Alphabet 1 inch high.
1 Alphabet 1 inch high.
1 Alphabet 1 inch high.
1 Large Butterfly.
2 Braiding Patterns.
1 Spray Carnation Pink.
1 Buttercup 3 inches high.
1 Buttercup 3 inches high.
1 Design Buttercup.
1 Braiding Pattern 5 in. wd.
1 Design Four Leaf Clover.
1 Spray Daisies 6 in. high.
1 Yacht 7 inches high.
1 Dancing Girl 8 in. high.
1 Dancing Girl 8 in. high.
1 Dancing Girl 8 in. high.
1 Cluster Rose Buds.
1 Spray Roses 6 inches high.
1 Poppy Design.
1 Bunch Forget-me-nots.
2 Sprays Daisies 4 in. high.
1 Design of Buttercup.
1 Design Salvia 9 in. high.
1 Vine Holly 4 inches wide.
1 Design Daisies 4 in. high.
1 Large Rose Bud.
1 Mushroom 4 inches high.
1 Design of Dog.
1 Cluster of Roses.
2 Daisy Designs.
1 Clover Design 10 in. high.
2 Designs for Pen Wipers.
Braiding Design 1½ inch.
1 Design For Pen Wipers.
1 Braiding Design 1½ inch.
2 Design Wild Roses.
3 Butterflies.
3 Butterflies.
3 Butterflies. 1 Design Wild Roses.

2 Butterflies.
2 Butterflies.
2 Butterflies.
1 Anchor and Chain.
1 Scallop with Eyelets.
2 Large Butterflies.
1 Design Pansies 5 in. high.
1 Design Nasturtimp 9 inches high.
1 Outline Des. Boy Spin'g Top 6 in. hi.
1 Outline Des. Boy Spin'g Top 6 in. hi.
1 Cluster of Buttercups 6 inches high.
1 Outline Design Girl Going to School
1 Design Daisies.
1 (10 inches high.
1 Design Swallow on Bough 3x5 in.
1 Design Swallow on Bough 3x5 in.
1 Design of Pitcher for tray cloth.
1 Outline Design for tray cloth.
2 (Courle Design Miller of the Spin Coulline Design for tidy 6x7 inches.
1 Spray Golden Rod 5 inches high.
2 (Outline Design Girl 5 inches high.
3 (Outline Design Girl 5 inches high.
3 (Corner Design Daisies and Bachelor
4 Bunch Grapes. (Buttons 8x8 inches.
3 Spray Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.
3 (Design Rose Buds and Leaves.
3 (The Valley 4x5 inches.
3 (The Valley 4x5 inches.
3 (The Valley 4x5 inches.)
3 (The Valley 4x5 inches.) 1 Butterfly. [686 inches.]
1 Design Good Luck 4-Leaf Clover and Large Rose Bud. [Horseshoe.]
1 Des. Peaches, Leaves and Blossoms. 1 Des. Wild Roses and Buds 4 in. high. 1 Design Cherry Blossoms 7 in. high. 1 Design Cherry Blossoms 7 in. high. 1 Outline Design Grid 8 inches high. 1 Design Rose 8 inches high. 1 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Frog. (The Valley 4x5 inches high. 1 Design Panetre Ham 8x 7 inches high. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Frog. 1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves. 1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Inches high. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Prog. 1 Outline Design Grid 8 inches high. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Inches high. 1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves. 1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Inches high. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Inches high. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Inches high. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Inches high. 1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves. 1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Inches high. 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilles of 1 Inches high. 1 Design Rose 8 inches high. 1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves. 1 Design Roses Inches high. 1 Design Roses Inches high. 1 Design Roses Inches high. 1 Design Rose Inches high. 1 Design Rose Inches high.

3 Designs of Roses and Bud 1 Design of Lily 5 inches hig 1 Scallop Design with Corne 2 Designs Forget-me-nots. 1 Wheat Design.

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COBBS CROSSING



A picture of the terrible Wro

Chapter I.

IZBETH, I guess you'll have to go down and relieve Jim at the box. My rheumatiz is too much for me this afternoon. Ask him to come back after his supper, and take my place for the night, deary. Put on your warm cloak and rubbers, for it is cold and muddy outdoors!"

John Sanders moved his two stiff knees round to the stove with a groan, for his limbs were very painful. He had caught rheumatic cold while sitting in the signal box at Cobb's Crossing, where, alternately with Jim Moran it was his duty to attend to the signals on the Blue Mountain Railroad, and manipulate the telegraph instrument along the line. John was a widower of forty-five, and Lizbeth a girl of eighteen summers, his only child. Like her father, she was

Allegorical Group of Wan

Columbian Fair

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somewhat plain featured
very much freckled, and
had high cheek bones which certainly
were the reverse of pretty, nevertheless
there was a settled good-humored smile
on her face, which always attracted
people so much that they forgot her lack
of beanty. She was a strong and willing
girl, and almost as well qualified as her
father to take charge of the signal box.
For six or seven years she had been in the
habit of taking her father's meals down to
the railroad crossing, on those days when
he was on duty, and she had learned to
manipulate the signals and the telegraph
with the ease and rapidity that comes from
persistent practice. It was, therefore, not
unusual, when her father was sick, for her
to take his place, but he would only allow
her to do this in the daytime, for he was
afraid of exposing her to the dangers of
the night. But stalwart young Jim Moran
was only too willing to work night and
day too, in order to save Lizzeth any care
or trouble, and it was a pretty open secret
along the line and around the village, that
they both thought a deal of each other.
It was also known that John Sanders
rather favored than opposed the match,
and indeed, everybody was contented that
it should be so, for both Lizbeth and Jim
were exceedingly popular among the
country folks of Hillside and Cobb's
Crossing.

The girl busied herself in making things
comfortable for her father during her
absence, placing everything he was likely
to need within his reach so as not to give
him the trouble of rising until she should
return. Then she bent down and kissed
him with affectionate reverence, and wrapping herself well up set out down the lane
for the signal box where her sweetheart
was on duty.

Her path lay down the hill, which ran
parallel to the track until she came to a
small stone bridge which crossed the rails
about half way between her home and the
signal box. Then the lane continued down
a gradual slope on the other side of the
track until it reached Cobb's Crossing,
where Jim was waiting to be relieved. On
the bridge she

the arms of her lover and kissed least a dozen times before she could get breath enough to talk.

"Oh Jim!" she exclaimed, when she could free herself. "For the land's sake let me go! I haven't any breath to spare. Father is sick again with the rheumatiz, so he has sent me down to relieve you this afternoon, and he wants you to please do his night for him."

him." "Why certainly Lizbeth, you know I'll be only too glad to stay. I'm awful sorry to hear he is in pain again, for do you know I have good news for all of us this morning?" and Jim put his arm around the girl's waist again and helped himself to a fresh supply of kisses. "What is it, Jim?" asked the girl eagerly, "do tell?" "Well little sweetheart, the Assistant Travelling Auditor



"The awful Destruction"

notified me this morning that both your father's salary and mine would be raised five dollars a month after the first. Now is not that good news. Lizbeth?"

"Oh my stars Jim, but that is good luck and no mistake. Father will be just delighted when I tell him, but now I want you to go home, and come right back again after you hav had supper. And oh, by the way, Jim, have you seen anything of two strangers around? I just passed a suspicious looking pair of fellows on the bridge, and they are up to no good I'll warrant. They watched me all the way down here."

"Both dark men, with soft felt hats, and long overcoats?" asked Jim, his face growing suddenly serious.

"Yes, and both smoking wood pipes," replied Lizbeth. I can't tell who they can be nor what they can want around this neighborhood. They are too well dressed to be tramps, and yet I don't like their looks—have you seen them?"

"Yes, they stopped here and asked me for a match about an hour ago, and were rather inquisitive about my business—too much so for my liking. Wanted to know if the Eastern express stopped anywheer between Papperton and Bruceville, and about what time it was due at the junction. Asked how far it was from here to Bruceville and how long it took a train to come from there. I said as no trains stopped here at all or within two miles of here, I could not tell, as I had never timed them. Their eyes were wandering all over while they were in here and I was precious glad when they left, I can tell you."

"I wonder what they are standing on the bridge for?" asked Lizbeth, as she turned and looked through the window in that direction. "Why they have gone away now," she added, for there was nobody visible on the bridge. "They are not coming down the road, they must have gone away now," she added, for there was nobody visible on the bridge for?" saked Lizbeth, as she turned and looked through the window in that direction. "Why they have gone away now," she added, for there was nobody visible on the bridge in the same of the same of the same of th



clear, go ahead." Onit came in a slow and cumbersome way, the great broad headlight throwing its searching glare on each side of the track. The young girl rose from her chair and stood by the window. The train was at least eighty yards from the box and moving but slowly, slow enough indeed to make it possible for her to notice all the objects brough to light by that glare. Under a tree on the opposite side of the track she saw the figures of four men, all masked, but from the figures and costumes of two of them she felt sure they were the same pair she had passed on the bridge in the afternoon. Instantly all kinds of conflicting thoughts rushed through her mind, but one idea seized upon her immediately above all others, and, like the quick-witted gill she was, she promptly acted on it. Those men were there for some evil purpose, most likely to rob or wreck a train!

With a beating heart she sat down at the telegraph instrument. The freight train was slowly rolling by between her and the men she had seen. She tried to get the operator at Bruceville but the instrument would not work. Instinctively she understood the reason—the wires had been cul! With this conviction came the dreadful thought that she could not now be apprised of the approach of the express! The headlight of the freight train was now fifty yards past the box, a few yards ahead of it she saw several men at the foot of a telegraph pole and one climbing it.

He was going to cut off her communication with Papperton!

In less time than she could think she had sent to the Papperton operator this message:

"Send all the help you can immediately to Cobb's Crossing, and try another circuit to stop express, gang of men waiting here to wreck it. Wires cut to Bruce."

Here her connection was cut also—the climber had achieved his object! The clock stood at 5.35—in half an hour the express was due.

What would these men do in the meantime—what had they done already! It was twelve miles to Papperton, the express did not stop between the two places and communica

twinkling of an eye.

Climbing over the stone fence the girl sped on in the dark over the damp grass as fast as her feet could carry her. She was running in the direction

of her home to tell her father of the terrible situation and get his advice. As she approached the bridge she thought she heard voices but on looking over the wall could not discover anybody in sight although the voices were still audible. A few steps further on she stopped short with terror in her heart!

To two neighboring trees her father and Jim Moran were securely tied with ropes, and a masked man in a long cloak was standing guard over them. Their temporary jailor was smoking and occasionally exchanging words with Mr. Sanders, who was begging to be liberated on account of his sore limbs. Lizbeth managed to steal around behind the tree to which Jim was bound, and slashed away at his cords with the little pocket knife she usually carried with her, at the same time whispering to him, while her father was talking, the condition of affairs.

The guard was talking in a reassuring way to Mr. Sanders when suddenly he received a blow in the side face that would have felled a giant. Before he could recover, another laid him low, and Jim Moran, now free, proceeded to bind him hand and foot with the cords which had been used on himself.

No time was lost in releasing Mr. Sanders, and then each party compared notes. It appeared that soon after his daughter had left the house John was visited by the two men whom Lizbeth had seen on the bridge. They declared that there was an accident on the line and that Jim Moran needed his assistance at once. Sanders was lured out of the house on this pretext, and when at a safe distance was rendered insensible by a blow, carried over the wall, and tied, helpless, to a tree. Several other men watched Jim leave the signal box and followed him until near the bridge, when, in spite of the brave fight he made, he was quickly overpowered and treated in the same way as Mr. Sanders, a guard being left over them until the purpose of the gang was accomplished.

"There is no time to be lost, Lizbeth," said Moran, determinedly. "The rascals mean dirty work no doubt, and we must first of all sav

your father over to the old barn buildings, and wait there for me. Nobody would think of looking for you there."

Lizbeth assisted her father, who could only walk with difficulty, over the fields some two or three hundred yards to a disused barn, and there left him while she ran up to see the house was all right, and then reconnoitre the enemy from the vicinity of the signal box. She found the house unharmed, so locked the door and ran down on the inside of the fence to where they had left the bound man. He was conscious, and wildly struggling to free his hands to get the gag from his mouth, which Jim had placed there. Lizbeth quietly drew the pistol from her pocket and stepped in front of the man.

"Silence!" she cried, with her mouth close to his ear. "If you move another muscle to free yourself, or utter a single cry, that instant you are doomed. I am going to stand behind you for the next hour—if I see or hear the least movement on your part, I shall shoot without further warning!"

The man scowled fiercely, but took the hint when he saw the girl was armed, and Lizbeth, pretending to stand behind the tree he was tied to, ran rapidly in the direction of the signal box.

It often occurred to her afterwards what wonderful courage she showed that night. She felt herself endowed with superhuman strength and fortitude, and the thought that possibly the lives of her father and lover, the only two she had on earth to live for, were at stake, nerved her for the ordeal.

Suddenly she stopped, and her heart seemed to stand still at the same time.

Her signal had been changed, there was a white light in place of the red! That meant "All right, go ahead."

As she stood there gazing in mute despair at the lying lights that towered up in the air not more than a furlong away, her practised ear heard the dull distant roar of an approaching train.

"Merciful God!" she exclaimed involuntarily. "Can this be the express coming rushing to destruction!"

In her mind's eye arose a picture of the terible wreek and of the awful dest

"Can this be the express coming rushing to destruction!"

In her mind's eye arose a picture of the terrible wreck and of the awful destruction which would follow if she did not succeed in stopping the train before it should strike the obstructions which the villains had piled upon the track.

A second later she knew it was not—the train was on the down line, coming from Papperton—it was the help she had telegraphed for! Climbing over the fence again she peered down the steep embankment, where, fifty feet below, she could see the steel hacks gleaming in the dark. There were figures down there too, she could see eight, ten, twelve men moving about. She laid down full length in the wet grass at the verge of that awful chasm and watched. The men were building a kind of barrier right across the up line!

gleaming in the dark. There were figures down there too, she could see eight, ten, twelve men moving about. She laid down full length in the wet grass at the yerge of that awful chasm and watched. The min were building a kind of barrier right across the up line!

Was more than a mile away now, she knew, and the probability was that he would be successful in stopping the express—but if he shouldn'!? The idea was too horrible to contemplate. She did not know anything in the wide world that she could do now to save the train. Her limbs had grown stiff, her senses were becoming benumbed—she felt a disposition to faint or fall asleep and then—

Here it came! There was no doubt about the express this time! She heard its low rumble plainly before it rushed thundering round Norris's Bend less than six furlongs away. Jim had failed to attract attention then, and there was nothing left for her to do but close her eyes and await the horrible, inevitable catastrophe. What's that? It is slackening speed, slower, slower still, and now the driver is surely pulling up? Yes it has stopped, within a hundred yards of the obstruction! Lizbeth could almost cheer with delight but she found no voice. Her tongue clove to the roof of her mouth. The demons below were advancing upon the train and she saw that the crowd was armed to the teeth. But she could not move nor scream, all her faculties seemed to have deserted her for the time being. The Papperton train was in sight now and bearing down rapidly on Cobb's Crossing. Another minute and it would be here.

Then there came suddenly a volley of shots that woke the echoes of Hillside and the surrounding country. It awoke Lizbeth from her lethargy, to find that the train were kers were retreating before a rifte fusilade from the windows of the express. It seemed to her almost at the same moment that the Papperton train came to a standstill, and fully fifty armed men to be down when here are a car, and Lizbeth, on going down the narrow bridle path to the track found that both trains were f

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Our clock must be slow this morning, Bus-Bee, for I am sure I hear some one coming, and I did not think it was nearly time. Cousin Drone must have forgotten to wind it last night. Run to the door, cousin, please, somebody is rapping. Good morning, good morning! but where are the rest, is this all who are coming? I thought we should have a full meeting this lovely day.

lovely day.

"Oh, the young folks stopped to go a-maying; they will be along presently," says Grandma Smith, sitting down comfortably and taking out her knitting. "Gals will be gals, and they like to race around in the woods this fine weather."

Yes, that's true; I enjoy it myself. See these beautiful mayflowers which I picked yesterday while out for a walk. We will not wait for the girls, for I know they will be here soon, but will begin our session at once. I have a letter here which I want to read, and will some of the Bees please answer it?

Bees please answer it?

Dear Busy Bees:—Will you be so kind as to give a little of your honey to a stranger? If some one will only tell me how to learn the alphabet of crochet, I would be so much obliged. I cannot pick out any of the patterns in papers, nor send any of my own, because I don't know my letters, so to speak.

A stranger bee, Mrs. J. H. GAVITT, Springville, Penn, I know that some kind-hearted sister will write to Mrs. Gavitt and tell her just what she wants to know. I would do so myself if I had the time.

Here come the girls, all out of breath. What, no flowers?

"No, but plenty of muddy dresses and wet

"No, but plenty of muddy dresses and wet feet," says Maggie May. "This is what we get for playing truant. You ought to scold us soundly, Busy Bee. How much of the meeting have we lost by being late?"

Not much of any importance, so come right in and sit down, and we will proceed. Oldtown was just about to give us a pretty edging pattern, I believe.

"Yes, I am sure you will like this; it is called

Make a foundation chain of 22 stitches.

Ist row.—Make a sh in the 4th st of foundation ch (by putting 3 dc, 1 ch, 3 dc in same st),

PRETTY PAPER RACK OR LETTER CASE.

Take the cover of an old book of any size that you wish; cover the outside with black satin, either painted or embroidered with some pretty design. Line with crimson silk or sateen; sew crimson ribbons upon the short side opposite each other, and tie in pretty bows; the upper ones must be left considerably apart to allow the papers or letters to be slipped in; then sew a ribbon from the top of the two ends to hang it up by. A pretty finish to put on the overhanded seam around the edge is a fancy silk cord.

handed seam around the edge is a fancy silk cord.

Try this plan for a

BED SPREAD.

Cut squares 13 inches square from butcher's linen or bleached cotton; stamp the middles and work them in outline, sew together and feather stitch the seams.

That is indeed a handsome edging. I should think that a bedspread made after the design you give would be very pretty and unique, and I should like to try it myself if I had the time. By working it in white silk, it could be made dainty and elaborate enough for a bride's chamber.

Do I see the door opening gently? Come in.

chamber.

Do I see the door opening gently? Come in, Goldenrod: what is that you were saying? You must not be bashful.

"I have been waiting outside for the past ten minutes, as I did not wish to interrupt the sister Bees; but the buzzing grows louder every second, so at last I have decided to join in and say my little say with your permission, Queen Bee. I have brought you patterns for Fan Chair Tidy and Crocheted Suspenders and I also bring a few other little hints, all of which I trust will please the Queen Bee and workers."

Another time you must come right in, and not stop outside. Take the little rocker, and tell us about these pretty things.

CROCHETED FAN TIDY.

to wear the little sacks and socks, some of our friends are sure to need them.

"Just try this little edging," says Mrs. L. W. Palmer, "it is pretty and simple, and narrow crochet patterns are not as common as the wider ones.

O. K. EDGING.

Chain 6, turn. 1st row.—Make 1 dc in 4th st, ch 2,1 dc in same place, miss 2, 1 dc in

miss 2, 1 dc in next st, ch 2, 1 dc in same place, turn. 2d row.—Ch 3, 8 dc under 1st ch of 2, 8 dc under 2d ch of 2, 1 dc on 1 st dc made in the 1st row, turn.

made in the list row, turn.

3d row.—Ch 3, 1 dc between 1st and 2d dc, counting from hook, ch 2, 1 dc in same place, skip 7 dc, 1 dc between 7th and 8th, ch 2, 1 dc in same place, turn.

Repeat from 2d row.

Repeat from 2d row.
Will some one give directions for making a fascinator, please?"

CROCHETED BABY SACK.

Use Germantown yarn. Make a ch of 42 sts, crocheted loosely enough to be 9 inches long. This is the neck.

1st row.—Make 3 more sts, turn and put a sh of 3 dc in every 2d st of the ch, at the beginning of each row make 3 ch to keep edge straight, this makes 21 shells.

2d row.—In the centre of each of the challent.

this makes 21 shells.

2d row.—In the centre of each of the shells of the 1st row make a sh of 2 dc, 1 ch, 2 dc. All the shells are now made in this way.

3d row.—Same as 2d row except widening by making an extra sh belween 4th and 5th shs, 5th and 6th, 16th and 17th, 17th and 18th shs in the preceding row.

4th row.—Widen between the 12thand 13th, 13th and 14th shs.

5th row.—Widen between 4th and 5th, 7th and 8th, 20th and 21st, 23d and 24th shs in 4th row. 6th row.—Widen at beginning and ending.

7th row.—Widen between 5th and 6th, 10th and 11th, 23d and 24th, 28th and 29th shs in the 6th row.

6th row.

8th row.—Plain.

9th row.—Widen between 5th and 6th, 12th and 13th, 25th and 26th, 32d and 33d shs of 8th

and 13th, 25th and 26th, 32d and 33d shs of 8th row.

10th row.—Plain.

11th row.—Widen between the 5th and 6th, 15th and 16th, 27th and 28th, 36th and 37th shs of preceeding row.

12th row.—Widen between the 5th and 6th, 16th and 17th, 29th and 30th, 40th and 41st of proceeding row.

13th row.—Work the 1st 5 shells plain then skip 13 shells and put the next shell in the 19th shell of 12th row, work 12 more shells plain (these are across the back), then skip 13 more shells and work the last 5 shells plain. The shells skipped are for the sleeves.

14th row.—Widen under each sleeve and on each side of the back. Crochet 6 times across plain.

Another time you must come right in, and not stop outside. Take the little rocker, and tell us about these pretty things.

CROCHETED FAN TIDY.

Chain 12. Turn, and make 5 rows of single "bars" in double crochet, 25 "bars" in each row, looping between the double crochet till 5 rows are made. Chain one between "bars" in 5th row. Four rows of 2 "bars" looping into shell and no chain between. One row of 4 "bars," no chain. One row of 2 "bars," 1 stitch between, and thread over twice from here. Four rows of 4 "bars," no chain between. One row of 12 "bars," no chain between. One row of 12 "bars," no chain and thread over 3 times.

Cachete 6 times across plain.

Now, for the sleeve, work plain shells across the 13 you skipped and your last shell to where you began. Ch 3 and go around, joining as before. Continue until you have 7 rows around, the other sleeve should of course be made in the same way, and don't be alarmed if there is a large hole under each sleeve, for this should be filled with a few shells to form a small gore. For the border, which should be made all around the sack except the neck:

1st row.—Make loops of 5 sts each, fasten them into the edge of the shells.

2d row.—Make loops the same and fasten into the top of those in the 1st row.

2d row.—Same as 2d row, except 2 sts should be made in the place of the 5. This forms crosses to run ribbon through. 4th row.—Shells in every 2d loop of

4th row.—Shells in every 2d loop of the last row.
5th row.—Scallops of 5 trs in every shell.
6th row.—Small loops of 4 ch in each tr of scallop.

Make this same border around the sleeves. For the collar make 21 shells.
Now run ribbon through the crosses and finish with ties of the same.
"Is the hive full?" asks D. G. B.
"No, not quite? Well, I will step in this way and take a seat by the Queen, though I am a little afraid of her. A pretty

LAMBREQUIN
is made by crocheting a piece 12 or
14 inches wide, leaving 3 rows of open
work through it. Run ribbon of contrasting color through this, making
a bow at end. Crochet deep points
and fringe them.

SUNFLOWER PINCUSHION

sunflower pincushion
is also quite pretty. Use brown velvet
for center, sewing loosely over cardboard and stuffing hair or cotton in
between. Cut the petals as near like
those of a sunflower as possible.
Make these of yellow silk. With some
kind of strong glue, paste them to a
thick paper. When dry, cut out and
sew on all round. It is best to have
two sizes, as you will have two rounds.
Fasten to a stem with leaves.

A small gourd cut down one-half, lined with silk, with curious buttons, stones, glass, etc., glued all over it and suspended with silk cord or ribbon, forms quite a pleasing curiosity basket or button receptacle.

ket or button receptacle.

INFANT'S CROCHETED BOOT.

Make a ch of 40 sts. Use Germantown yarn.

1st row.—*30 sc, ch 2, skip 2, 15 sc, slip stitch
the 2 remaining sts for toc, turn.

2d row.—Slip stitch 2, 15 sc, putting needle
through each single loop from you (called
ribbing), ch 2, skip 2, 20 sc, turn and repeat
from * until you have 12 rows (or 6 ribs).

3d row.—*20 sc, ch 2, skip ch, sc in end of ch,
turn, 1 sc, ch 2, 20 sc, repeat from * in 3d row
until you have 6 more ribs, then join with sc,
having ribs lengthwise and ending at open
work, then make a slip stitch in next st and
turn.

work, then make a sip stitch in next st and turn.

To make heel, make 1 sc in each open place all round the heel, fasten with 1 slip stitch at side, turn, sc around the heel putting the holes through both parts of the st, slip stitch 2 on the side, turn, slip stitch 2, sc round the heel, sc 1 more from the side, turn, sc all round the heel to toe, slip stitch around the toe, sc to heel, then to toe, slip stitch 2 by 2 (drawing wool through 2 sts at once) around toe, sc all around to heel, sc 2 by 2 round heel, sc to toe, slip stitch 2 by 2 twice at toe, sc all around the foot; when you get to toe turn boot wrong side out and join together from toe to heel with sc, picking up a single loop from each side. Make border of different color.

For the border, join the wool in between 2

Saxony be too fine? My experience of Germantown is that it is rather hard and coarse. As Mrs. Packard speaks of the universal desire to get something new and pretty in designs for babies' socks, etc., suppose we have one meeting devoted to that subject? say in September, and all bring as many pretty patterns for socks, sacks, aighans, blankets, bibs, etc., as they can find.

Time is up, sister Bees, although I am sorry to be obliged to say so. Come early next time, and bring your friends with you. Good-bye, and a pleasant journey!

Contributions solicited from those who enjoy this department; descriptions of novelties in the line of fancy work specially desired. Please accompany directions for edging with a sample of the same.

of the same.
I cannot furnish addresses, or answer letters by mail. Address,
Busy Bee, (Care of Comport Pub. Co.)

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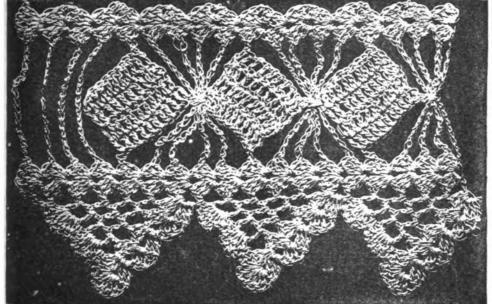
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useful gift.

ch 15, skip 15 sts, make a sh in the 20th st of ch, ch 1, make a shell in last st of foundation ch, turn.

2d row.—Ch 1, make a sh in last sh of row, ch, 1 dc in loop between shs, ch 2, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, turn. 3d row —Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in 1st loop from sh, ch 1, 1 dc in next loop, ch 1, sh in sh, turn.

4th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in 1st loop, ch 1, 1 dc in next loop, ch 1, 1 dc in next loop, ch 1, sh in sh, ch 11, make 2 dc in middle of foundation ch, drawing the 4 chstogether, turn; 1 dc in each of the 1st 10 sts of ch 11, turn, *1 dc between each of 10 dcs just made, repeat from * twice, making 4 rows in the square, ch 1, sh in sh, turn.

5th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in 1st loop, ch 1, 1 dc in 2d loop, ch 1, 1 dc in 3d loop, ch 1, 1 dc in 4th loop, ch 1, sh in sh,

6th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, 1 sc in 1st loop, 6 dc in next loop, 1 sc in next loop, 6 dc in next loop, 1 sc in next loop, ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh

loop, 1 sc in next loop, ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, turn.

1st row of 2d scallop.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, ch 1, make a sh in 1st loop, turn.

2d row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, turn.

3d row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 11, 2 dc in 1st st of last row of square in 1st scallop, drawing the 4 chs together, then make a square the same as in the 4th row of the 1st scallop; sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, sh in sh, turn.

turn.
4th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch
1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, sh in sh,
ch 15, sh in sh, turn.
5th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, ch 1, 1

de, continue through the row, turn.
6th row.—Like the last row of 1st scallop.

Here is a good way to make a

Fringe 31-2 inches deep into every other space. Draw narrow ribbon through the spaces up and

CROCHETED SUSPENDERS.

Take 1 ounce of silk and a bone crochet hook Chain 26, turn.

2d row.—3 dc in 4th st of ch, 4 dc in 8th st, and epeat to the end of chain, making 6 shells in

all, turn.

3d row.—Ch 4, 3 dc in space between 2d dc of 1st shell of last row, 4 dc between 2d dc of next shell, continue to the end of row.

The 4th and following rows same as 3d row. Make each suspender 25 inches long and line with ribbon of a contrasting color.

A pretty

is made from a piece of cardboard 8 by 10 inches. Cut a place in the center large enough to place a small ink bottle. Cover the cardboard with plush, and paint a spray of flowers at the corners, or cover the cardboard with glue and scatter over it small shells and bits of glass and beads, and gild the bottle. A

made with leaves of oiled paper, and the cover of silk with a few canceled stamps pasted on, and buttonhole stitched around with silk, is a

useful gift.

I thought we were to have Mrs. Frank Packard with us to-day, but she has not come. I wonder what can have happened. Why, here she comes now, all out of breath. We feared we were not going to see you to-day, Sister Bee.

"I forgot one of my patterns, and had to go back," she says, throwing off her wraps; "but I was determined to come, so here I am. I brought an edging pattern, but I believe after, all it is the same thing that we had a little while ago under another name, and so I will tell you how to make some pretty things for the babies. We all like to get something new in that line, for if we have no babies of our own



"He consulted with the police

THE FLIGHT OF RICHARD BERING.

BY MCKENDREE BANGS.

SYNOPSIS.

Michael Bering starts one evening to call upon his brother Richard and nephew, Richard Jr. Just before reaching the house, sees Richard Jr. leave in great haste; thinking there has been a family quarrel which is not infrequent, he returns home only to be summoned shortly to go to the house of his brother who has been murdered. Mary Irving, the ward of Richard Sr. is there mourning the loss of her friend. She hates Michael and has very short conversation with him. Richard's will is opened, which discloses the fact that Michael and Richard Jr. are to be joint executors. Richard Sr. and his son quarreled because the young man wants to marry Mary Irving, and on the evening of the murder they were alone in the Bbrary, and Richard Sr. wants Mary to have other suitors in order to be able to select a husband; Richard Jr. leaves room in anger, and meets Mary in hall, he tells her his father's wishes, and she asks: "Is he going to bring these men here, or must I seek them, these men I must choose among?"

CHAPTER III. THE VERDICT.

THE VERDICT.

In course of time the police learned, or believed that they did, that Richard Bering, Jr., had embarked apon a sailing yessel for San Francisco. Then the inquiry before the coroner was proceeded with. Michael Bering testified to what he had seen on the alght of the murder, and the policemen and detectives told what they had discovered and stated their theories. Them the verdict charging Richard with the crime was rendered.

To Mary Irving, Michael Bering was very attentive; but he was wise alway and he did not for a long time permit his attentions to become annoying to her. Upon the night of the murder he had shown her that he suspected Richard; but he had realized at ance his mistake. That mistake he would not make again. He would do nothing further to excite, acthing more to deepen her sympathy with Richard. He hoped that she would gradually come to think of his death as an assured fact and that then she would not be inconsolable. He would have been glad to keep from her all report of the proceedings before the coroner; but that could not be. He feared that the report of his testimony might anger her; but if it did abe made no sign. When the verdict was reached she did express her abhorence of the injustice which had been done to Richard.

"It is wrong, it is cruel. Oh, it is so cruel! How fare they treat an absent man so. Oh, if I were amant?"

"I am a man, Mary," Michael said quietly. "What can I do?"

man!"
"I ame a man, Mary," Michael said quietly. "What can I do?"
"Do?" she responded. "Defend him. You might and him."
"You must remember. Mary that everything possi-

"I am a man, Mary," Michael said quietly. "What can I do?"

"Do?" she responded. "Defend him. You might dad him."

"You must remember, Mary, that everything possible has been done to find him. And in his absence we are so helpless in his defense. Besides, that need out trouble us. When he returns he will be so fully able to defend himself, why we will be so fully able to defend himself, why we will laugh to think that we ever thought it necessary."

This disarmed her directly. She felt that she had serhaps been unjust to Michael Bering to have been so distrustful of him.

"You will forgive me," she said. "I know that so thing more could have been done."

Michael noted the change in her manner, and was much gratified. He felt that he had made a very certain advance. To have already removed her distrust was to have done much, and with time and patience and discretion he might do much more. Patience and discretion he might do much more. Patience and discretion he would have no difficulty in dinding; but for time he might have to struggle.

He consulted with the police. He found that they were pursuing no other clues; that, indeed, they had but one theory and upon that alone they were acting.

"If we had any doubt about it," said the head of the detective force to him, "we might not be willing to speak so freely; but there cannot be any doubt. It is all so plain, the motive, everything. To be sure, it is all so plain, the motive, everything. To be sure, it is strange that he should fly and so throw away whatever benefit might have come to him; but he must have been frightened. They often are, such men. I am atraid, sir, you will have to give your nephew up as a bad one."

"I am sure, I hope you will find that you are mistaken. But if he is guilty?"

"He can't escape us. It will be a blow to you, of course, but it will have to be borne."

Michael had delayed as long as possible the preparation of the schedules and statements he had promised more than is necessary; but I would like to consult you from time to time as



I can never be sufficiently grateful to you."

"Not all of it, of course; but the separation should be made, I am advised, and Richard's portion held in trust until we are more certain of his fate. Until his return, I mean," he added quickly, careful now to do aothing to arouse her suspicion or her opposition.

"Yes," she answered, "I suppose that that must be "I want to do all that I can, and the best that I can

"Yes," she answered, "I suppose that that must be so."

"I want to do all that I can, and the best that I can for you."

"And you will not blame me," he went on, "if I consult with you freely?"

"No, I cannot do that. I know the responsibility must seem very great even to you. It would overwhelm me."

Through all these days Michael Bering was very careful, very considerate of Mary Irving's comfort. He was very adroit. He never was unwelcome. Fortune favored him, too. If Mary needed advice or help of any sort Michael was on hand to give it. In her deep mourning, she was very secluded, of course. Some of her dearest friends would condole with her or ask her questions of Richard, or, maybe, show too obviously their sympathy. Michael never did. If, in the search for diversion she sometimes felt she must have, she chose to take a drive nothing was more natural than that she should ask Michael to accompany her. With an active mind, with an extensive acquaintance with men and affairs he could be very interesting and he was. Always certain of his ground and of himself, he chose topics of conversation which completely changed the current of her thoughts while they were together. Sometimes she even ventured to ask him to take her driving behind a fast horse he owned and was very fond of. These drives she found much pleasanter than the more formal ones; they exhibrated her. But often in the reaction she would accuse herself of disloyalty to Richard, that she could so enjoy herself in his absence and while he was suffering she knew not what. But she would not permit herself to Indulge in any morbid thought, and she knew, too, that if Richard could know, he would much prefer that she should seek all the pleasure she could. She had not known that Michael Bering could be so agreeable; she was a little bit ashamed of her past distrust of him. She still kept the house, and still maintained the establishment pretty much as the need of some companion of her own sex, some more or less elderly woman who could live with her. Michael

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My DEAR FRIENDS:

There are so many pleasant and cheering letters in my mail-bag this month that I hardly need to say much to you myself; it seems to me that you ought to have all the room possible to talk among your-selves. Our column is truly a Sunshine Corner, such beautiful, bright thoughts find a place there. It is easy for those who are enjoying good health and prosperous circumstances, to preach cheerfulness and content; but when the sweet words of trust and patience come from some suffering one, over whose life the shadows have fallen, they seem to have a new and deeper meaning.

"A serene sky is always pure: clouds may pass

"A serene sky is always pure; clouds may pass across it, but they do not stain it. So is it with the heart that early in the morning opens to receive God's Peace."

God's Peace."

Here is our cheery Shut-In friend once more.

"I have received such hosts of letters bristling with interrogation points, that with dear Auntie's permission I would like to answer some of them here. When first 'called aside' by illness I thought there was nothing to hope for but a speedy release by death. To see all my life plans in ruins, was harder to bear than the physical suffering. I felt I could not have it so, and besieged heaven day and night with selfish prayers and complaints. After a time, however, I grew ashamed of myself, and began to look about me and think. I found others had taken up my duties, and the world jogged on as evenly as ever. The wee ripple made by my fall from the ranks had long since subsided. I was still on earth, but no longer necessary to the proper working of mundane affairs. It was mortifying, but only what all invalids experience. Then I made up my mind to give up with a good grace. I would bend every energy to getting well, but I would be happy and content while waiting. Then I began looking for something to do. Lying prostrate on my bed I could write, but nothing else. The first year of my invalidism I earned \$150, writing stories, but that did not satisfy me, as it benefited only myself. Then a friend called my attention to the Shut-In work. Eurekal I had found it! Joined a circle of invalid King's Daughters, a Comforting Circle, and other societies of the same sort, and asked the leaders to make use of me in every possible way. I dare not take space to tell of the grand work being done; of the little helps given, of the comforring letters sent and received, of the good reading passed on, of the bits of useful experience made known. In His Name we have helped cast out the fear of death, the dread of pain, impattence, self-ishness, illtemper, despair, from many hearts. I have now no more long idle hours. There is always something to think of, something to do. I wish more would unite in the good work. Those who are willing to help, can write to Mrs. H. K. Munro

keep hands and heart full; for the pen has been a veritable angel of mercy to many a lonely sick-room.

"Hove to read the cheering heartfelt Christian letters from so many. I am a Shut-In, have been for syears; in all that time I have never been free from pain. I am truly an invalid, but one with a theory, which although I do not often speak of, I try to live every hour. This theory is that the Father will not permit anything to come to me which I cannot bear. Whatever is inevitable is the best way possible, according to my limited understanding. I have not allowed my interest in the world to flag. I enjoy literature in nearly all its forms. I go abroad with those who travel and so feel as though I have really been away myself. I enjoy very much too all kinds of Ohristian books and papers. Yes, I read stories sometimes; they seem a necessity and take the place of real companionship, for I have the gift to live in what I read, picturing it all out and really for the time dwelling in it. Dear invalid friends and others, do not I pray think always of yourself as invalids; while submitting to present privation, do not yield to a passive submission, for it is the worst of chronic mental diseases. Hope always that you are to have a share in the real life and work of this beautiful busy world, it makes our own burdens easier to bear. It there melyery much to write, but if our Christian sisters would be so kind to write to me and help me, they can in many ways. My husband is only in the house long enough to get his meals, so you see my dear cousins I am alone, only for the good Lord; I have Him to look to. I would like some silk and velvet or worsted for my quilit; would like reading matter of all kinds except dime novels. My husband would be grateful for good newspapers also.

Mrs. H. W. Brown, Kinde, Huron Co., Mich."

Sisters who can write, I remind you once more of your opportunity to help a lonely sufferer. A score

Mrs. H. W. Brown, Kinde, Huron Co., Mich."

Sisters who can write, I remind you once more of your opportunity to help a lonely sufferer. A score of cheering, sympathetic letters would bring a flood of sunshine into this dear friend's solitary life; and those who can send reading matter, do not forget her request for herself and husband.

Miss F. C. Metcalf, Box 52, Elgin, Ontario, would like the cousins to give her a "letter party" on May 30. Next month I intend to begin a regular birthday list of those who would like such remembrances. All who wish their names on the list must send them in at least three months before the date of their birthday, or they cannot appear in season.

Here are some kind words from a sympathizing friend:

riend:

"To the dear Shut-In cousins I send warmest greetings, and wish that I could reach out through the long distance and shake hands with you all to-day, but as this cannot be, will have to content myself with just having a little pen and ink chat with you! Dear ones, shut in from the beauty and glory and sunshine of the beautiful outside world. Yet how sweet to reflect that you are not shut in from the eternal sunshine of God's love. And though perhaps you may not understand now why the cross is laid heavily upon you, yet you will know in 'God's dear' Bye and Bye,' for never until then will the 'mists be cleared away.' But thank God! we will be permitted to see clearly then, and will fully understand the

whys and wherefores of this life.' I am glad to think that there are no headaches or heartaches, or physical ills of any kind in that fair City of God, where the inhabitants never say, 'I am sick.' I have a number of 'Happy Hours' magazines, 'The American House-keeper,' 'Ladies' World,' and other reading matter to give away to anyone sending stamps for postage. Would like the cousins who are engaged, or interested in Christian work to write to me.

(Miss) Sadie R. Johnson, Scarboro, Harford Co., Md."

"I live in the Southern part of good old Georgia.

Scarboro, Harford Co., Md."

"I live in the Southern part of good old Georgla, and will give the cousins a little description of my home. On the left of our house is a high hill covered with stately pines, and at its foot is a beautiful little brook by the side of which I used to spend many happy hours. But that time is past, for I have been a helpless invalid for three years, never able to go out of the house. In front of our house, about a mile away, is a mountain from fwhich is being taken corundum in large quantities. I am too poor to take any paper but ComPoRT, but I love to read; will not the cousins send me something?

Miss S. L. F. Snow, Monroe, Ga."

What a beautiful view you must have from your

Miss S. L. F. Snow, Monroe, Ga."
What a beautiful view you must have from your
window! That is so much better than the dreary
brick walls and dusty pavements which are all that
many poor sufferers have to look at in the long
weary hours. God's sunshine and fresh air are wonderful tonics.

many poor subseries have to dook at in the long derful tonies.

Dear Auntie:—Since the insertion of my letter in COMPORT I have received over 100 letters from your nieces, also reading matter from a great many. Thanks, dear ladies, for your kind interest in my sad gloomy life. You may be proud of your nieces, Auntie, for they are certainly worthy. Excuse me, gentlemen, as I haven't heard from but 3 or 4 of you, therefore I can say but little in your behalf. There are many of the dear cousins that will ever be cherished in my memory, although their faces I may never see in reality. But nevertheless their sympathetic hearts are beating to mine and they are ever before my eyes in the dark shadowy regions of imagination. Wisconsin Wild Bill, you are a dandy sure enough. Be frank cousin mine and just come out and say that an unknown correspondent captured your heart and then rejected you, and let the girls take you at just what you are worth. I would suggest that the girls of Wis. search those bluffs (as soon as the leaves get down) for cousin Bill, very likely he has hauged himself over some love affair or else eloped with some gypsey maiden. I am still a Shut-In, but my dear afflicted friends we must look on the bright side and remember that our sufferings are nothing compared with the sufferings that were inflicted upon Our Redeemer on that rugged cross. Remember dear Shut-Ins that it is God who afflicts His people and wshould not murmur against His works. So let us be cheerful and content and thank God that it is no worse with us than what it really is. I most heartily sympathize with you all and wish you every blessing that God can give. Ver truly,

Thomas Bunten, Carter, Lineback Co., Tenn.

"The Shut-Ins have my greatest sympathy, for 1 too am one. My health has been very poor for 13

The Shut-Ins have my greatest sympathy, for I too am one. My health has been very poor for 13 years; have never seen a well moment in all those long years. Oh people with health, you know not how sad we poor Shut-Ins feel; but we know not how sad we poor Shut-Ins feel; but we know not how sad we poor Shut-Ins feel; but we have many things to be thankful for, if we are deprived of our health, God sends us many blessings, and we can do a great deal of good for our Heavenly Father; so let us cling to Jesus and never give Him up. When I get discouraged and heartsick, and this world and its surroundings look so dark and gloomy, I just go to God in prayer and there reveal all my heart to Him; and when I get through I feel like a new person. He lifts such a heavy burden from my soul and makes me happy again. I am a poor woman, and in need of treatment, but am not able to go and be treated. I have asked Jesus to show me a way that I may get the money to go and be treated, and I have faith He will. Now, poor Shut-Ins, do not get discouraged, but put your trust in Jesus.

"Just as God leads me, I abide,"

"Just as God leads me, I abide,"

"Just as God leads me, I abide,
In faith, in hope, in suffering true;
His strength is ever by my side—
Can aught my hold on Him undo?
I hold me firm in patience, knowing
That God my life is still bestowing,
The best in kindness sending."

The best in kindness sending."

"I know of a poor Shut-In whose lot is especially hard, because added to the physical suffering are mental tortures and harshness, almost at times a refined cruelty, from those who should be tender and kind to her. All is borne with a silent patience that is pitiful to see. Some days she can do some light work, as she lies on her couch of pain. Recently the house has been burned, and all the little helps to while away a weary hour burned also. This sufferer now lives on a lonely farm, far from neighbors. If any one has books to spare, or crazy scraps, and will send them to me, I will see that they are safely placed in her hands.

Mrs. E. N. M. GILMAN,
Lynnfield, Mass."

That is a sad story indeed; not only to suffer, but

in her hands.

Lynnfield, Mass."

Lynnfield, Mass."

That is a sad story indeed; not only to suffer, but to be unkindly treated too, is a hard fate. Are there not some kind hearts who will help to make this sad life a little brighter?

Charley E. Williams, Palmyra, Wisc., in whom the cousins have before been interested, would like to have them all send him cancelled stamps. And to his request I will add the following list of those who would be glad of aid in various ways.

Mrs. M. E. Morgan, Quanah, Hardeman Co., Texas. Em. E. Brown, Sebree, Webster Co., Ky.

Mr. B. C. Knight, Enfield, N. C.

Mrs. Mary Dyke, Hull, Sloux Co., Iowa.

Miss Emily M. Wheaton, North Branford, Conn. I will also say that W. H. Willcomb, Ipswich, Mass., will write letters of Christian sympathy to any Shut-In wishing for them. With loving wishes,

AUNT MINERVA.

AN OLD RULE.

"If you do not see what you want ask for it." The Provident fund society of New York City is ready to answer all questions in reference to accident Insurance. Professional men now unemployed if they desire a light, pleasant and lucrative employment can secure such by addressing the above institution.

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My DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS:
Who has been Maying this year? Perhaps you do not go in other parts of the U.S. as we do in Maine; merry parties of young folks off to the woods and rocky pastures as soon as the snow is gone, coming home with their baskets full of the lovely, sweet-scented arbutus. It is a shy little flower, and means that you shall hunt for it; under the coarse brown leaves it hides away, and a careless eye would never discover it. The hepaticas have come too, and the fragile anemones; do you know those?
I want all my young folks to love flowers, and to be interested in studying them. A German poet has said, "Flowers are the beautiful hieroglyphics of Nature, by which she indicates how much she loves us." Better still, we may believe that they were placed upon the earth by our Heavenly Father, to give us pleasure, and to show His love for us.
Well, there are a good many letters this month, and I will not take up any more of our space myself. There were a few of my little folks' faces on the pictorial page last month; how would you like sometime to have a page all made up of your pictures' suppose we ask the Editor what he thinks of that.
Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have come to thank the consins for their kind and sympathizing letters and

time to have a page all made up of your pictures? suppose we ask the Editor what he thinks of that.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have come to thank the cousins for their kind and sympathizing letters and receipts sent me. I am glad to see so much interest taken in the Shut-Ins by the cousins; as I am a cripple, I know they need sympathy, although God has blessed me with kind and loving parents to care for me. To David Precee, Bee Caves, Tex., its no use to try to keep even with the girls, they are already ahead of us. With best wishes for all, I remain your loving nephew,

"We live in a beautiful little valley where there are a great many coyotes and prairie dogs that kill chickens and spoil all they can. The prairie dogs are real cute looking, coming out of their holes and arking at people as they pass them. There is one mission church and two schools here; I have been attending school all the time. I have one brother and two sisters, Fred, Bertha and Eva, Fred is 13 years old, I am 10, Bertha is almost 4, Eva is almost 1, we have 4 cats, just 1 apiece, and a fine Scotch collie; he is a great pet, even the cats like him. I would like a girl correspondent about my own age.

Your niece, IDA M. HOFER, St. Peters Mission, Cascade Co., Montana.

long, before I could summon courage to make my presence known by a timid tap on your door. Now I think I hear some one say, 'Come in.' What a cheerful place this is, to be sure. Annt Minerva seated in her easy arm chair, the owls on either side, blinking solemnly, are the center of a circle of smiling girls and boys. Cousins from all over the United States, all chatting with Auntie and each other like old acquaintances. Would you like to 'know how I look, cousins? Well, I am a girl of 14 rather small for my age, I have brown hair and eyes. Can you see me any plainer than before? This will be my second year in the high school. How many of you have read Miss Olcott's books? I have read nearly all of them, and think they are just splendid. I have read many other books too, and I will tell about them some other time, if this letter does not end its days in the waste-basket. I hope some of the other cousins will write and tell of the books they have read. Now I must go. As I walk slowly from the room I think I hear Auntie and the cousins say, 'Isn't she a talker though!' With love, MARGUERITE.

It is a very excellent plan for young folks to tell of

It is a very excellent plan for young folks to tell of the books they have read, and exchange ideas on the subject of reading. Some may tell of interesting books of which others have not heard, and different tastes and opinions will be brought out.

tastes and opinions will be brought out.

"I live away out West, which would seem like a wilderness to you Eastern cousins. I live in the Black Hills country. The Black Hills are in plain sight of our house. How many of you cousins have ever seen a stone quarry? There is one quite near where I live and I have seen the people work in it quite a number of times. There is pink, blue, white and variegated sandstone gotten out of the quarry. There is a reservation east of here, so I see lots of Indians, and I agree with Moon of Leaves on the Indian question. I saw 1,500 Indians all together once, all painted up for war. I would like to have all the postmasters daughters of my own age write to me, also some of the other cousins. I am a postmaster's daughter and I am IS years old.

Your Dakota cousin, JULIA P. BETTS, Smithwicks, Fall River Co., S. Dak.
"I live in the southeastern part of Colo. The coun-

"I live in the southeastern part of Colo. The country abounds in beautiful scenery, but owing to the small quantity of rain that falls the soil is not very productive. We have no means of irrigation as we

MARRARE A MAY MOVING.

A MAY MOVING.

You're surprised to see us going, But you know we couldn't stay, 'Cause everybody's bound to move Upon the first of May. We've been living in the attic, And though well pleased with that, Have concluded for the coming year To take a larger flat.

To take a larger flat.

We found it in the hayloft,
(Where the sun creeps through a crack,)
But praps when Mamma calls on us
You'll see us coming back.

E. L. S.

"I am a little girl 12 years old. I live in Northwestern Kansas, in a sod house. I never saw any
fruits or nuts growing on trees. We have not raised
anything here for the past 2 years. I live 1 mile from
a station on theiRock Island. I should think it would
be very nice to live where there are trees. There are
owls and prairie dogs and rattle snakes here, and
they all live in the same holes. From your niece,
EVA PAGE, Dellvale, Kans.

I suppose my young folks will think I am yery ig-

I suppose my young folks will think I am very ignorant, when I tell them that I have never seen a prairie dog, and don't know what they look like. Some day, "when my ship comes in," I mean to travel in the West, and see all the curious and wonderful sights in that part of our great country. Perhaps I shall "go cousining," and visit my nices and nephews; how would you all like that? It would take me a good many years if I stopped long with each one.

"I am a little girl 13 years old. I live in the northern part of Cal. where there is nothing but hills, sand and sage brush. I will tell you of a plan my playmates and I have. We take all the pretty pictures we find and paste them in a book and then write stories about them, it makes a nice scrap-book.
Your loving niece,
CARLOTTA DODD,
Long Valley, Cal.

Long Valley, Cal.

That is a very nice idea, Carlotta. If you do your very best to make the scrap-books neat and pretty, they will be interesting for you to look over when you get to be young ladies. Did you ever make any scrap books for the poor children in the hospitals?

books for the poor children in the hospitals?

"I have been taking COMPORT for 3 months. I like to read the letters better than all the rest of the paper put together. I live in Decatur, Ills.; it is a city of about 18,000 inhabitants and has a great many manufactories and is next to the largest railroad centre of Illinois. We have 2 very nice parks and the city is making the old fair ground into one. The Modern Woodmen of Illinois had a picnic at Riverside Park last summer. There was a balloon ascension and parachute drop, also boat, tub and swimming races and greased pole walking, etc. I will ask all the cousins to send me something for a remembrance, a photo, autograph or anything they wish. I will answer all letters. From your nephew,

PERGY S. EWING, 532 Monroe St., Decatur, Macon Co., Ills.
"I have been standing on the threshold, for oh! so

"I have been standing on the threshold, for oh! so

are too far from any large streams of water or the mountains. The people are too poor to build reservoirs or sink artesian wells. We may receive aid from the Government. I have lived here more than 4 years. I have not had a very good opportunity to receive a good education as I have always had delicate health. I am 15 years old. If any of the cousins will send me some lace patterns I will be glad.

Your niece, Anna Tipton. Springfield, Colo.

Your niece. ANNA TIPTON. Springneid, Colo.

"Here come twin sisters to join your band of nieces and hope you will accept us. We are Il years old and are so much alike that our friends hardly know which is which. We go to school every day. We have a good teacher who is very kind to us. Our father is a wealthy farmer. We live near the beautiful little town of Pickens. Sister and I have a pretty little horse all our own that we can drive where we please. Don't you know we have a delightful time when we go out driving. IRENE and IRMA HENDRICKS,
Table Mountain, S. C.

It seems to me that I have a letter from another

It seems to me that I have a letter from another pair of twin sisters somewhere. Oh yes, here it is. "We are twin sisters who want to be your nieces.
We are little six-year-olds. For pets we have 2 dogs, one named Rover, the other Major, and a cat named Tibby. We had fine times skating last winter.
Your loving nieces,
Roseva and Rosena Robinson.

You did not tell me where you live, little folks, but hope you will write again some time and remember

that.

"I am 15 years old and live on an island in Puget Sound, Wash. The climate is mild here, and the flowers bloom in January. There is going to be a navy about 6 miles from here. I have lots of fun hunting and fishing. There is plenty of game here and fish too. Most all kinds of vegetables grow here and all kinds of fruit, except tropical fruit of course. I live 12 miles from the city of Seattle, which is the largest in Washington; the Northern Pacific railroad comes here. Seattle is growing very fast, it has a population of 50,000. The young people here have just got up a debating club and are getting on very well; I think it is a very useful way of spending the winter evenings. If any of the boys and girls will write to me I will surely answer.

CHARLES SUTTER, Madrone, Kitsap Co., Wash.

would rather never be in society than to be like a great many girls that I know. It seems there are very few who have the good sense not to become spoiled by the many temptations open to them in society. I now want to tell the cousins where I live. Nine miles below Helena, near the banks of the mighty Mississippi river, our cottage nestles among the willows and cottonwoods. There are large plantations all around us, where great quantities of cotton and corn are raised. Our land is subject to overflows; 2 years ago our house was washed away while we were all asleep. Now how many,of the cousins have had such a thrilling experience. We did not sleep long after we started on our perilous journey. As soon as the house filled with water it sank; papa swam after a boat and we were all rescued.

Stella M. Rabb, Helena, Ark.
Your ideas are very sensible, my dear. I hope you

Your ideas are very sensible, my dear. I hope you will have an opportunity to get a good education, and become a noble woman, which is so infinitely preferable to being a society girl.

Now I must say good-bye.

Your loving,
AUNT MINERVA.



A CLOSE RESEMBLANCE.

Although the imitation's good I'd like to have it understood, This camel isn't quite the same as those in shows and

This came: 181 a chance books;
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For this one, as I said before, resembles it in looks.

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A Child's Love for a Doll.

Did you ever notice the tender, motherly affection that a young girl displays for her first doll? And did it ever strike you as a curious evidence of instinct that a girl just out of the cradle will take naturally to a doll where a boy of the same age won't even look at one? It seems in accordance with the eternal fitness of things that a girl is born with the latent instincts of motherhood, and takes to a doll as naturally as a woman takes to her baby.

It does not make the slightest difference to the child whether her doll cost fifty dollars or fifteen cents. She has the same reverence for it, the same solicitude for its proper treatment, the same attention to pay to it. Whether it be clothed in rags or in purple and fine linen, whether it be made of wax, wood, chins, leather or composition, the doll has the same love bestowed upon it.

And it is also noticeable that no amount of misfornen or ill luck that doll may experience can estrange the child's affection. If accident, or the ravages of time, deprive it of an arm, or leg, or both; if continual handling detaches the scalp and leaves the doll bald, trifles of that kind are not considered valid reasons for abadomment, but rather demand a larger share of sympathy and love from the doll's owner. Nay, we have even known an absolutely limbless trank, headless at that, treasured in its folds of rags as a miser treasures his hoard, and regarded with the same pride that it evoked when in all the symetry and beauty and youth of perfect dollhood!

Hardly a walang hour is spent without Dolly in the little one's arms, and wherever she drops asleep during the day the mimic baby can be found in her embrace. Then, when the sandman shakes his bag, as dusk is drooping, when the "Now I lay me" is lisped out, and the child is placed in her neat warm oct, one other occupant has to share her couch and slumbers—that dear, delightful, disreputable looking doll; But hold, modern inventos is all ways making startling improvements and the latest hing just brought out is for the you

invention is always making startling improvements and the latest thing just brought out is for the young people who live away from the large cities. We have just secured sale of a new kind of dolls that are absolutely indestructible, and we show you in this cut here how they look; they are 18 inches tall and made of elegant colored goods. In getting this doll up we have overcome the great trouble of weight which has made such a cost in the past when shipping by mafl or express. These dolls are so constructed that you fill them with cotton, hair or sawdust, sewing them up after receiving; it takes but a few minutes to do this and you save at least one dollar and get a pretty substantial doll for almost nothing. They will last for years and be a joy forever to any miss who does not estief. To introduce our goods Morse & Co. d one doll for 13c, or 2 for 25c., or give one a 6 months 25c. subscription, or for a clut clty 25c. subscribers will deliver one free.

THE STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF T

A THRILLING TALE.

BURNING OF THE HOME AND SLAUGHTER OF INMATES. RELIEF FOUND AT LAST.

Our artist has sketched this striking allegorical scene which is so typical of the after ravages of that dread disease La Grippe, which has played such sad havoc among all classes of people the past few seasons. The testimony of all GRIP WRECKS, and there are thousands upon thousands of them, is that I felt like a

all GRIP WRECKS, and there are thousands upon thousands of them, is that I felt like a HOUSE AFIRE when the Grip was upon me, for I was all aflame and burning up so to speak, and it now seems as though the Heart was burnt out of me, my system is in such a weak and feeble state. Elizabeth Evans living in Virginia writing last Christmas says:

"I thought I would tell you the good that your food is doing. There was a man that had not walked in eighteen months. He commenced using the food and now he can go around to see his friends with ease. I can sell your food readily for I say it is a miracle that I am living. The doctors gave me up and well they might for all medicine had turned against me. When I received those few little tablets you sent me for a sample I found instead of making me low-spirited it brightened me up and I thought it was the thing for me. Now everybody that sees me is wondering and saying that they never expected to see it and they buy the food of me when I tell them it cured me. I believe I could sell a hundred boxes in a little while if I were able to buy it. I know it was the Lord gave me the Oxien. I had been a sufferer for twenty years and to-day I thank God that I can enjoy this Christmas I was in bed: to-day I am sitting in

SLAYING THE VICTIMS.

SLAYING THE VICTIMS.

The great malady has not been satisfied in destroying the best part of the home but after reducing the system to such a state of weakness some incurable organic disease seems to creep in, unless proper remedies are secured many who have had La Grippe and apparently perfectly recovered have afterwards died very suddenly. Those who have been examined showed disease of the spinal column, and the Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are especially valuable in all cases when the system is run down and any symptom of a Weak Back is developed. Thus our artist in sketching has illustrated the poor victim beset by all the fiends that follow in the Grip wake. Headache comes with hatchet in hand and seems to nearly rend this throne of reason from the body. We think a spear nearly pierces our body through when those Pleurisy or Rheumatic pains come upon us, and our breath is nearly taken away by the rapid Heart throbs of that important organ. Men, women and children are slain by the awful diseases that follow in La Grippe's wake, thus this scene has been pictured in its true significance, showing the onslaught and ravages of the different maladies that have presented themselves even before the fire has been extinguished within the house. But rising up in sight of all this scene of desolation comes the salvation the multitudes have long sought. The agent who proclaims the virtues of Oxien and goeth forth among the down trodden and unhappy people who realize the calamity that has come upon them comes indeed as a Saviour clad in the armor of health and strength. The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Me., supplies and protects the agent in his or her territory and many have been the appeals to the home office

Extract from letter of Mrs. Emma J. Heffley, 605 E. Broadway, Champaign, Ill.

"I must tell you of one case a man down with La Grippe. He had a high fever and racking headache. He had no money but we let him have the food and in a few hours he was easier and is around now. Oxien has done wonders for me. I am stronger and suffer less than I have done in eighteen years. I will never do without it so long as it continues to benefit me. I am so thankful for such a remedy."

From D. M. Modenen Rowerston, Harrison

I am so thankful for such a remedy."

From D. M. McQueen, Bowerston, Harrison Co., Ohio, Jan.

"I received the lot of food yesterday in good order and sold four boxes. It takes with the neighbors at sight. It has worked like magic on wife and myself. Enclosed find money order for another lot. If I had the money I would send for a twenty-five dollar lot, but will order as I can.

Giant Oxic Co.

will order as I can.

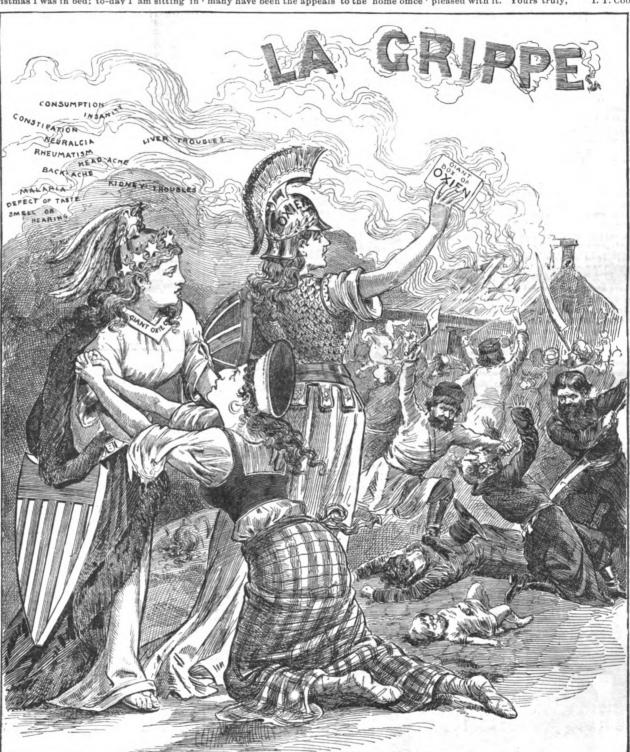
Giant Oxie Co.,

As stated above, you are now liable to have all kinds of disease creep in and owing to the debilitated condition of the system

DEATH FROM SUNSTROKE will be more common than ever this season and Oxien has been found to be a sure preventive for this serious difficulty. Nervous prostration will also be unusually prevalent and the wonderful food for the Nerves acts as magic. In all cases that have come to our notice it really surprises the patient by its quiet but marvelous action.

Laffoon, Daviess Co., Ky., Jan. 2, 1892.

Dear Sirs:—I enclose one dollar for your giant box of food for Matilda G. Christian. She has been taking it for lung trouble and is well pleased with it. Yours truly, I. T. COOK.



front of my door writing. It was the Lord's doings for the psalms say. 'The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want,' and He knew I wanted health and He led me in that way. I send you money order for which please send me one dozen boxes as soon as possible as friends are waiting for the food.

Others say:

The Gripleft me in a terrible state. I have a continual buzzing in my ears and they seem to be stopped up; my head aches nearly all the time; if I take a little cold my throat and chest are choked up; at times it seems as though my heart would jump up into my throat; I can't sleep; I am so nerrous that I tremble nearly all the time; I feel tired and have no ambition to work.

This Testimony comes from the people who did not hear of the wonderful food for the Nerves Oxien, which prevented and cured so many cases of this nature, but all those who try it even after getting into this terrible state of health find immediate relief, for it drives the lurking poison germs from the system and feeds the starved and impoverished nerves.

Dear Sirs:—The Oxien came all right and if will tell you it is doing lots of good here. You will please find enclosed M. O. for which send me six boxes of the giant size. I sold two boxes to a doctor's wife and she says it is the best medicine in the world. Send food soon as I will have another order ready when I get this lot. I am going to work in earnest for a large premium.

Susan Chilton.

Gents:—This is to certify that I have taken Oxien and find it good for nerve and heart troubles. Lucy M. Gordon, Batesville, Arkansas,

Batesville, Arkansas.
From Cyrus B. Purdy, White Plains, N. Y.:
Gentlemen:—Please find enclosed one dollar
for a giant box of Oxien. Send it as soon as
possible. I have used it before with good results for rheumatism in the shoulder and find
it good in keeping off colds. I have also sold
some of it but had to give it up as my employment is nights and I have to sleep days. I want
the Oxien this time to build me up as I am
somewhat run down from the nature of my
work.

Oxien feeds starved nerves in the same man-

Oxien feeds starved nerves in the same manner that regular food cures hunger, satisfying the enhungered nerves, taking the place of stimulants, narcotics and the like, leaving no morbid appetite or reactions.

By the many unsolicited Testimonials we have received we prove that Oxien cures Thousands of helpless cases every year, even where Fit, Idiotic or Paralytic symptoms have developed, and the patient ever after remaining bright and active. Remember Oxien is a Compressed Tablet food, it can be carried in the vest or dress pocket. People can work twice as hard as usual and not get tired when using this wonderful food for the nerves. The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are a great assistant used in connection with the food, and agents are rolling up wealth who handle these goods.

Write to the Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine,

Write to the Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, to-day for free samples and further particulars about plasters and food and learn how to make one hundred dollars a day.



HE last month of Spring has long been a favorite with the poets. It is the harbinger of the bright Summer days c.oso at hand, and everywhere the advent of May is received with manifestations of delight. In our own country there is not so much distinction given to the first of May as in England and Europe, but the idea is slowly taking root and perhaps among our festivities in the future will be a May-day. In Scotland, where much is made of the day special pains are taken to observe the first day of May, and many quaint and curious customs still prevail there and in England. In great parties the people betake themselves to the woods and fields to engage in the sports arranged for the day. Dancing round the May Pole is familiar doubtless to many readers, though they may not have engaged in the pastime. A long pole is set in the green having long wreaths of flowers reaching to the top. Each wreath is seized by the young men and maidens, who march around the pole singing a May song. When the pole is completely wound up a shower of flowers falls on the lassies and the dance is ended. After that the fairest maiden in the village is crowned with flowers as "Queen of the May," and this pretty custom is immortalized in Tennyson's beautiful poem The May Queen," which begins you will re-

"You must wake and call me early, Call me early mother dear, For I'm to be Queen of the May, mother, I'm to be Queen of the May!"

I'm to be Queen of the May!"

But in the night the poor girl was taken sick and soon afterward died. All through her illness her thoughts were on the May-day and in her delirium she always asked her mother to be sure and wake her early for she was to be Queen of the May. It is a touching poem, one of the best that Tennyson ever wrote and a great favorite with the English.

Exactly when the custom of observing May-day first originated is hard to state, though in all probability it has come down to us from the Romans, who held what they called Floral Games at that time. Later on the Irish and Scotch signalized the day by immense fires on hillops, but gradually that custom has died out, and the present May Pole has taken its place.



In beautiful New England we have many customs which are looked forward to in May with an immense amount of pleasure by the young people. One of them being the hanging of what are called "May Baskets," some of them beautifully and artistically made by the deft fingers of our lovely sisters and cousins, who gather themselves in groups of 3 or 4 after dark, and hang these pretty tokens on the door knobs at the homes of the neighboring boys and then ringing the door bell or loudly knocking, immediately run to the nearest shelter to hide from whoever may answer the summons, and who if he has any fun in his makeup will immediately institute search for the guilty parties and if one is caught she is sure to be kissed right royally. Another favorite pastime is goin large parties to the woods in search of the beautiful and fragrant arbutus which is the carliest and choicest of our many wild flowers here, and grows in great profusion in the pine woods and around deserted meadows.

This brings to mind a beautiful custom which I once saw carried into practice in a small village near Augusta. A beautiful young girl who

had won the love of all her young companions died in a neighboring city and the remains were taken to her early home for burial, the day before the funeral the villagers turned out as a body in search of the lovely pink and white arbutus and the grave was literally lined and padded, and the whole lot covered with fragrant buds and blossoms, no other flowers being seen.

The observance of Decoration Day also comes in this month, and in the whole list of hallowed customs adopted from time to time in the United States, none has gained more steadily in popularity, nor should any holiday be held more sacredly in our minds. For if hero worship should ever be in vogue in our glorious country the noble defenders of our glorious country the noble defenders of our gas should be the first to receive our adoration. Our artist has beautifully depicted a scene which will meet our eyes in almost every cemetery in our broad land on the 30th day of May.

Singular to relate this beautiful month is

Singular to relate this beautiful month is much abhorred by lovers and a May wedding is generally regarded as an unlucky wedding. As far as possible the young men and maidens are of one mind on this point, and the nuptials are invariably postponed till the leafy month of June.

of June.

Aside from this aborrence of May for marriage there are many other quaint customs connected with it, for instance, as washing the face with dew in the early morning, a practice which still survives in Scotland. Gay parties of young girls make the morning tuneful with merry laughter, and at Edinburgh, the ancient capital of Scotland, many girls may be seen wending their way to Arthur's Seat, a favorite spot for this ceremony.



But as the world grows older and more prosaic these customs are now growing more and more obsolete with each successive year. In the cities the day is more given up to the rather practical side of domestic duty, house cleaning. It is also the favorite day for moving, and so general is this custom observed that most of our city houses are leased from May to May. This is a wide departure from the days of May. Poles, but after all this is a workaday world, and we must content ourselves with the change in circumstance. It may not be so poetic but it is more healthful.

The month of May is also celebrated for hav-

found that there were two skulls in the possession of the monks. That was easily explained by the monkish exhibitor who explained, "The other is the skull of the saint when he was a young man, ours is the skull when he had reached the years of skill and wisdom."

Taking it altogether, however, May is a month of more than passing interest, and in years gone by has witnessed the end and the beginning of many great men and notable events. HENDRIK HUDSON.

June Joy.

Will surely come to those who start now and get up clubs for Comport, as you obtain free some of the best premiums ever offered. The Hammock, Hammock Chair, Music Books, Photo Outfit and many others are worth trying for and take but a little time to obtain.

HUSBANDS AND HOUSEKEEPING.

BY BETTY BARTON.

a dose of copperas.

I wasted a great deal of blacking on my stove during the first year of my house-keeping. Every day that ugly black Moloch must bepolished, at the expense of aching back, dingy fingers and scorched faces and what was fingers and scorched faces and what was it after all this labor, but a big, hideous mass of iron? Now that stove gets a washing in the dishwater every day, and semi-occasionally the doors and hearth get abit of a rub. Don't be shocked, my friend the model house-keeper. You may keep on polishing if you will, but life is too short for me to spend in that way, and I think too much of my hands. A mop for dishwashing, and mop for dish-washing, and another for the stove, is a won derful saving for those over-worked members.

derful sa ving
for those over-worked members.

But the cooking was the worst. Adolphus
bore up bravely for a while, and swallowed all
kinds of messes without a wry face. The swillbucket in those days was a feast of fat things
for my neighbor's pigs, garnished as it was
with loaves of bread, pans of biscuit, leathery
cake, and burnt gems. Finally my patient hushand rebelled, and announced that he should
take his meals down town if there was not a reform in the domestic regime. Of course I
called him a brute, and shed floods of tears;
but after he had gone to the office, I decided
that he was right, as I am very apt to do. Putting my pride in my pocket, I ran across the
garden to one of my neighbors, a kind, motherly
soul, and laid my difficulties before her. How
they disappeared before her sensible suggestions! I will not encroach upon Cousin Ceres'
provinces by attempting to give many of them;
but I do want to tell you how to avoid that frequent disaster of your cake sticking to the pan.
Do not bother with greased paper, but just
grease the pan well, then dredge it thick with
flour, and turning it bottom upward, give it a
smart rap. All the superfluous flour will fall
off, and just enough will be left. I found, too,
that I must not tramp about the kitchen or
rattle the stove covers when my cake was baking, for the least jar might cause it to fall. For
the pies that would run out in the oven, I
learned to bind them with a strip of wet cloth,
pressing it down securely. A little study of
the drafts of my stove enabled me to have less
burnt food, and the simple expedient of placing
a dipper of cold water in an over-heated oven
saved many disasters.

As I said before, Adolphus bore up patiently
under these varied trials, and I really began to

As I said before, Adolphus bore up patiently under these varied trials, and I really began to think that I had a model husband. But never be too sure of a man until you try him through house-cleaning. That is the time that tries men's souls, and women's soles, too, but the sterner sex are apt to think themselves the most abused.



wall, the brica-brac gathered dust, we both
caught cold
from the bare
floors and fireless house, and
our friends and
our friends and
relations had a
mania for
dropping in to
dinner. Adolphus fretted,
and scolded,
and swore and swore (Revised Ver-

(Revised Version) and finally settled into a state of finally settled into a state of ostentatious resignation which was maddening. But I could not blame him so much after all—could you?

Now in conclusion, let me give you a little list of don'ts from my own experience, apropos of our subject.

1. Don't imagine you must marry an angel. Think how lonesome he would be with you. Try just a plain man; and 2. Don't expect a man to behave like an angel. He isn't built that way; and 3. Don't believe a man when he tells you that you are an angel, nine chances out of ten he doesn't think so; and if he does, he will soon get over it.

ten he doesn't think so; and if he does, he will soon get over it.

Don't try to do everything "the way mother did." If he liked his mother's housekeeping so well, he should have stayed at home with her a while longer.

Don't expect to keep your husband's love, unless you give him good dinners. Men's hearts and stomachs are very apt to compare notes.

Don't forget that a man has some rights in his own house, and try to give him a place for the sole of his foot, even in house-cleaning time.

the sole of his foot, even in house-cleaning time.

It will be easy to do this by not laying out too much house-cleaning in a lump. Take one part one day and get through with it before starting in on more clutter. Think over and lay out your work systematically and you will be surprised to find how much cleaning you can accomplished without turning the house all upside down.

down.
And lastly, remember that
"We can live without love—what is passion but pining? But where is the man that can live without dining?"

A Free Souvenir to all Subscribers.

As I said before, Adolphus bore up patiently under these varied trials, and I really began to think that I had a model husband. But never be too sure of a man until you try him through house-cleaning. That is the time that tries men's souls, and women's soles, too, but the sterner sex are apt to think themselves the most abused.

It was a fine April day when I resolved to commence the ceremony. Laboring under the delusion that "the hotter the war, the sooner the peace," I began operations by taking up every carpet in the house, and turning all the rooms into a state of chaos. When Adolphus came home to dinner, the only repast which greeted him, hungry and tired, was a bite of bread and cold meat on a dusty corner of the dining table, with the piano stool for a seat, and the cheering prospect of the backs of all the parlor pictures piled up in close proximity. With a look of despair he exclaimed, "Betty, what on earth have you been doing. Do you offer to hold open for the next thirty days.



MY DEAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

After having the great pleasure of seeing so many of your faces last month, I feel as if we are nearer together than ever before. Of course only a very small proportion of the great company of cousins could be represented, but perhaps we will have more some other day; and we are all looking forward to our grand reunion at the World's Fair, when we shall be a happy, united family. As I said last month, I am a very proud Auntie, when I see that I have so many fine nieces and nephews, and only wish that there was room for all their letters to be published in full. But as this is impossible, let me urge upon every one the necessity of condensing what you wish to say. Every long letter crowds out a dozen others. And do not cover a page or 20 in telling how long you have been in making up your mind to write to Comport, and how much you fear the "dreadful waste-basket." Out of the hundreds of letters that I receive each month, there are not a half dozen whose writers do not refer, in some way, to the waste-basket. If you could all realize how silly that sounds after I have read it in a hundred letters or so, you would spare me that infliction. Try not to waste your time or mine by writing what you know will only have to be discarded; but say what you have to say as briefly as possible, and stop when you are through, which is a lesson few people ever learn. Many letters are thrown aside, otherwise good, on account of their great length, and the labor required to cut them down to the limit of our space.

The result of the Essay Club competition cannot be announced for a month or more yet. Many members have not renewed, and I remind them once more of the loc, yearly dues assessed in January. The Club has now about \$2.50 in the treasury; and I would like postal card votes from the members immediately as to whether they will authorize me to give this money to needy persons where I think it will do the most oneedy persons where I think it will do the most oneedy persons where I think it will do

pose of it. The committee on bases of the port as follows:

Resolved: That the Comfort Essay Club adopt as its badge, a simple bow of apple-green ribbon.

Resolved: That Aunt Minerva be requested to purchase the badges and furnish them to members of the Club.

GRACE L. ENRIGHT.

GRACE L. ENRIGHT.
SALLY STARK.
MYRTA E. RAYMOND.
FRED WHITE.

Myrta E. Raymond.

Fried White.

I have purchased some ribbon of the required shade, and will furnish the badges at 10c. apiece; this will insure a uniform color throughout the Club, which would not be certain if you bought them yourselves. In writing for badges, put "please forward" on the outside of the envelope, and the letter will reach me sooner. I also have a communication from the work more rapidly, we have seen fit to change our secretary and treasurer from Miss Pratt to W.E. Anthony, M.D., as he purchases our medicines at a much lower rate than prescriptions can be filled at local drug stores, and of a better quality. My dear cousins and co-workers, send in your membership fees; associates 56c., Shut-Ins 25c. This is a great and good work benefiting humanity, and those of you to whom the Lord hath entrusted His wealth in your many helpless ones may be set free and able to earn themselves a competent living and help others. Our beloved physician is doing more than his share. Hereafter all fees and donations to be sent to W.E. Anthony, 64 John St., Providence, R. I.

President.

Anthony, 64 John St., Providence, R. 1.

I am surprised that the cousins do not take more interest in this good work; and I wish once more to call the attention of all Christian workers, especially of the King's Sons and Daughters, to the list at the nd of the Shut-In Column. One of the needy ones whose name appeared in that list some time ago, wrote me that all she had ever received was a package of S. S. papers; not even a kind letter to cheer her loneliness or to inquire into her wants. Dear friends, we are not doing the work that we ought, in bebalf of our suffering brothers and sisters. Read Matthew 25: 34 to 40th verses inclusive.

I have talked a long time this month, but I am sure you will forgive me, for you know I did not have very much space last time, and there were a good many things to speak of. We will now turn to the letters, and first will hear from some old friends, Kansas Sunflower, Kansas Red Bird, Merry Sunshine, and others whom we have known before.

Dear Auntie and Cousins:—I, wonder how many of

and first will hear from some old Friends, Runsas Sunflower, Kansas Red Bird, Merry Sunshine, and others whom we have known before.

Dear Auntie and Cousins:—I wonder how many of the cousins have ceased smiling since reading the description of a Kansas sunflower in Sept. number, by Kansas Rat, weeds as a usual thing are rooted out and cast aside; must this be my fate also? Southern Girl, your letter is addressed, or much of it, to Cousin Jeanie, but I trust you will not feel offended if I, a Western girl, offer you my hand, and ask you to clasp it across "the dark chasm of sectional hatred." Yes, if we could only understand each other, this great nation of ours would not be divided into different sections, but we would be one not only in name and because power makes us so, but in reality. After the cruel war has been passed and gone so many years, and the veterans who enlisted then, to take part in that great struggle, have many of them enisted in that grand army over the river, we still continue to hate each other and work against each other. Why should this be so? Although a Northern girl in sympathy, and revering our Northern soldiers, those noble "boys in blue," who fought that this nation might be one so many years ago, I think it traitorous to them for me, or anyone else, to strive to keep up this sectional hatred. The war was fought years ago, to bind us together, not to tear us asunder. And now let us forget that we differed in opinion and remember that we are one, this is our country and this is your country; let us work for its best interests.

"Under the sod and the dew Waiting the Judgment Day, Tears and love for the blue, Love and tears for the gray."

KANSAS SUNFLOWER.

Every truly patriotic American desires to see our beautiful country united, and sectional hatred a

KANSAS SUNFLOWER.

Every truly patriotic American desires to see our beautiful country united, and sectional hatred a thing of the past. Here in our COMFORT corner, where North, South, East and West meet together, are we not beginning to realize the wished-for harmony?

"Where are our healthy cousins, who should be bright, happy, thankful and cheerful? Where are all the united efforts to cheer our more unfortunate cousins, our Shut-Ins? Why so chary with your kind words and deeds? If some have imposed upon our love for them, never consider the efforts lost to do His will, for the conscience of such people must prick them like so many red hot needles. Do you wish to know the secret of my happiness? and how I gained my pet name, Merry Sunshine? It is this, I count that day lost whose low descending sun views from thy hand no worthy action done.' If you wish to secure real, true, heartfelt pleasure and happiness study how to make others happy. Your Comport cousin,

MERRY SUNSHINE."

All will welcome this continuation of T. E. M.'s in-

All will welcome this continuation of T. E. M.'s interesting story.

grateful for your cordiality. Yet remember this is no fancy sketch (if it were, how that child would blossom out) but simple everyday facts. I said a crisis came soon after she tried to earn a doll carriage by going without eating for a week. Now real crises are as rare as they are interesting, and this event caused a complete change in our lives. Think of it, there was a forgery in it—a real forgery. We were not the rascals, oh no! or I should have kept most awfully quiet. But my father was doing well; had gone into business with another man, and it was the other man who made so much mischief with his pen. When he was found out and the court awaited him, with strong visions of the jail yawning before his very feet, the rascal came to my poor worried father and offered him about two hundred dollars to leave the country, in order to prevent the prosecution. Twas a small sum, yet it meant America and freedom. My father for years had looked with longing eyes toward America; he accepted the two hundred dollars and turned his face resolutely.

To the land of the free,'
as the old song has it. There were a few days of hasty preparation, in which my mother did a good deal of mending and shopping, all the while whiping away hasty tears and trying to hide her cares, while father was busy nailing up great wooden boxes of things. Well, while these treasures were being gathered up, we children had great times. I remember my brother Ted and I standing in the kitchen beside a large tub of suds, which, left from some hasty bit of washing, stood in the middle of the floor. Our young, romantic thoughts were all about water, now that the ocean lay before us, and anything in shape of fluid attracted us, even a tub of suds. I stood on one side and he the other, and we gazed dreamily at its surface.

"Say, Pojjie," said he, (Pojjie was my pet name because I was so chubby.) "Say Pojjie, how rough do you s'pose the 'Lantic ocean is?"

"Why,' I replied seizing a stick and gfving the water a vigorous turn, "I think it is about as rough



Star"? If any member of the order sees this please write to me, in love. I wonder how many COMFORT cousins enjoy their postal autograph album as well as I do mine; would like to exchange with all the cousins.

W. S. K., Box 701, Pasadena, Calif.

Will some one answer this question about the "White Star"? I must confess that I have never heard of it myself.

white Star?? I must confess that I have never heard of it myself.

Here is Wisc. Wild Bill to speak for himself; you see, girls, that you have not scared him out of existence, or into silence.

"In my last letter I asked if I sould come again, and you all know I was told 'to try and see,' and so I will. I wonder how many of the cousins, who have children of their own, think of what they are doing when they give their children a book or a paper to read? I know many mothers and fathers whose hearts ache, as only a parent's heart can ache, just because they have a wayward child. I tell you that nine cases out of ten, it is all because they have not had the right kind of reading. I would just like to urge two points, and these are: 1st. Provide your children with something to read, for if you don't they will provide for themselves; and then 2d. Look out that what you provide is good. I am in favor of having a Comfort Remion. Let us have it some time during the summer, when the World's Fair is in session at Chicago. We ought to have some place picked out where we could have it and then have it published in Comfort so would all know. Perhaps some of those 'Indignant Girls' will then have a chance to give me a shaking up, etc. Will all those that are in favor of having me tell about a trip to Holland please raise their hands? Perhaps Aunt M. would like to hear something about how the people live there and about the great dikes, etc.

Your true nephew,

I know we should all enjoy very much a letter about that interesting country, if you can write from per-

etc. Your true nephew, WIS. WILD BILL.

I know we should all enjoy very much a letter about that interesting country, if you can write from personal observation. Suppose you write a series of short letters, which I can publish in successive numbers of the Chats, giving incidents and adventures of your trip, descriptions, etc. And we will give space to Kans. Red Bird, too, that he may defend himself. "Equal rights to all."

"For the hearest of Indignant Girl and several

"Where are our healthy cousins, who should be right, happy, thankful and cheerful? Where are all he united efforts to cheer our more unfortunate tousins, our Shut-Ins? Why so chary with your cloud words and deeds? If some have imposed upon turl over for them, never consider the efforts lost to to His will, for the conscience of such people must rick them like so many red hot needles. Do you wish to know the secret of my happiness? and how I sained my pet name, Merry Sunshine? It is this, I count that day lost whose low descending sun views from thy hand no worthy action done.' If you wish so secure real, true, heartfelt pleasure and happiness tady how to make others happy. Your COMFORT tousins, or young ladies, and with the exception of these three, they have all proven themselves ladies of the highest order. Wisc. MERRY SUNSHINE."

All will welcome this continuation of T. E. M.'s increasing story.

"So the hungry little youngster finds favor in your worthy circle? Well, you are kind people, she is

I am a young man of twenty and an active worker in the Y. M. C. A. It is a grand work. There are over 1,690 associations in the U. S. and they have a membership of over 500,000. The Y. M. C. A. is in every country in the world, even in the East. In Japan, China, India, Cape Colony, Persia and all over Asia, Africa and Australia. Even in Jerusalem there are two associations. The association takes a young man by the hand with a friendly, cordial grasp, takes him away from the saloon, bad company and the streets, and brings him among fine manly young men. There he finds true friends and companions; it gives him a comfortable place to spend his spare time and evenings, gives him everything that will interest him and make him feel at home, that will strengthen him physically, mentally, socially and spiritually. My masculine cousins, if you are in a town or city, find out the Y. M. C. A. and you will find true sociable young men and the best of company. John B. Gough says, 'Young man, keep your record clean,' and that is the grandest thing for anybody to do. Young men, be manly, stick to your colors and be sure they are the right ones. Don't pull them down for sneers and mocks. In their hearts they will respect you for holding to the right. Go in to win, and use all the talents God gave you and you will. My cousin, do as the celebrated evangelist, Chas. H. Yatman said, 'Keep sweet.' Keep your temper, your thoughts, and your actions sweet, and work will become easy, and troubles will be as nothing. Your nephew,

Romert S. Virruce, 295 Bank St., Newark, N. J.

"When I receive Comfort I promptly seat myself in my study chair and turn to the Chats. I read for about five minutes, then I come across a letter from some conceited cousin—like myself. All my antagonistic proclivities rise up like the quillis on a porcupine's back. I seize paper and pen and dash off a criticism. I read it over. Not as good as I expected. I read it again. Still worse. I take down 'Pope's Essay on Criticism' and read for five minutes, then I deci

Across S. America' and 'The Voyage of the Paper Canoe' are admirable. I will give fuller information to Subscriber or anyone else who will write to me. LIBRARIAN, Box 209, Fulton, Oswego Co., N. Y.

Yes indeed, if many of the letters which reach me had been subjected by their authors to the severe test to which you put yours, they would never have come to see the inside of my waste-basket. Thank you for your suggestions about books. I have not been lately where I could have access to a really fine library, and hence am not able to keep up with the literature of the day as I would like to. Your position is an enviable one.

"As to correspondence, the girls W. W. B. spoke of certainly do not belong to the Comport circle. There may be beings in this wide world who would so degrade themselves, in fact there apparently have been, but they are neither ladies nor gentlemen. A lady once said, 'Nobody but a gentleman can insult me, and no gentleman will insult me,' Taking this for a talisman there can certainly be no harm in writing to, strangers. It is said that 'One touch of nature makes the world akin.' So does one touch of the pen. Comport probably does more than any other paper in promoting a universal acquaintance among the young people of the nation, and yet 'cold type' can only convey ideas, while a private letter seems almost animate. What a grand thing it would be to have a personal acquaintance in every State in the Union! No State would seem a foreign place, the whole land would be one's home. Would be pleased to correspond with more of the cousins, for I think letter writing is a practice we all need more or less. Delmar E. Holden, Williamsburg, lowa.

"Almost a year since I wrote you before, and what

letter writing is a practice we ail need mote of ress.

"Almost a year since I wrote you before, and what change there is in our columns; they have improved so much. Tel E. Grapher, I would like to shake hands with you. You are right in what you say about man or boy who takes his occasional glass, and how I wish every girl would take your advice in this matter. I wonder how many of you ever try to study the character of the many human beings constantly about you? What a variety one meets! From the one that is so quiet and unpretentious, you must frequently hear a gentle word of help and encouragement to the less fortunate one. Men and women are too crowded in with the vast multitude for us to distinguish their brilliancy. They speak great words and do great deeds, but in the crowd of humanity they are overshadowed by the greater brilliants, but are not lost, for man was born for a higher destiny than that of earth. I Fred Afolter will write to me, I can send his sister's address to him. Address with Aunt Minerva.

The little crooked poet never spoke a truer word

The little crooked poet never spoke a truer word than when he wrote "The proper study of mankind is man." If we study the people with whom we come in contact every day, not in an unkind or critical spirit, but with a sincere desire to help them, we will find the pursuit more fascinating than seeking the lifeless

knowledge found in books. And for mottoes for our study, suppose we take the following.

"You cannot bring the good out of a man, unless you believe the good is somewhere in him."

"God must have loved the common people, or He would not have made so many of them."

"Nihil humanum slienum a me puts."

"It think Wis. Wild Bill is very hard on the fairer sex, but I hope he will improve with age and change his opinions. If he has a sister and has the same opinion of her as he has of other people's sisters, I must say he is a very hard one indeed. I respect and honor all the girls that merit it. As to which department of Comport I like best, I like them all, but the Chats are my favorites and I think, as a good many others do, that we want more room to chat in. I trust that our esteemed Editor, Mr. Coe, will heed the old adage, 'Vox populi, vox Del,' The voice of the people is the voice of God.' Because as it now stands the voices of the people cry from far and near, more room for chats with our old friend Aunt Minerva. Would like to correspond with the cousins.

Your nephew, E. A. Foxwell, 318 So. Woodyear St., Ballimore, Md.

"I should judge from reading the comments and criticisms that W. W. B. had been giving the fair sex a general hauling over the coals on the subject of love and matrimony. I have not read his letter, therefore I cannot answer him as well as I would like. But I am inclined to side with the cousins who have answered him. The chances are that Wisconsin Wild William or (Bill) has been captured by one of the gentler sex ere this, provided the girls have not been afraid of the name he delights to call himself, I am of the opinion that his name would kind of scare the timid creatures of the feminine gender, so that hey would be afraid to come too close to Wild William. I am not much of a lady's man myself, but I do believe in love and matrimony, and I also think that matrimony is a most holy and sacred thing. Flirting is a thing I despise, but I do like to see two young people courting and going to a

in self defense? That is the kind of a girl W. W. B. should marry, according to your idea of him.

"Success to dear little Comfort. May she shine in the New Year as she has shone in the past. Cousin John A. Taylor, I send you greeting, and here's a hearty hand shake through the medium of my pen. Now I see the cousins are telling of their surroundings, so I will follow suit. I live near the Catskill Mits. so ably described by Carrie A. Miller in Dec. Comfort, and about 1-2 mile from the foot of High Point, a mountain which lifts aloft its majestic head and towers above the surrounding country some 3,000 ft. It is quite easy to ascend, as a footpath winds around its side continually creeping higher until at last you are able to set foot on the highest part. And if it is a clear day and you have a glass you may see some part of? different States, viz., Yt., N. H., Mass., Conn., N. J., Penn and N. Y. On the highest point is also a little spring rising in a cleft of the rocks. You may go and drink of the clear sparkling water, and after viewing the beauties of nature or otherwise enjoying yourself, and lo and behold the water has vanished. Some say it is caused by the rise and fall of the tide. And now, cousins, let us make our letters as short as possible, so we will be able to hear of mere of the cousins. I leave my address with Aunt Minerva and if any of the readers will write I shall assure you an answer. VI O. Lin.

"My first introduction to our paper friend was in the lumbering regions of Wisconsin. I had been out

dress with Aunt Minerva and if any of the readers will write I shall assure you an answer. VI O. LIN.

"My first introduction to our paper friend was in the lumbering regions of Wisconsin. I had been out in the woods all day, and on coming to the camp at night found among the mail brought in by the tote teamster's copy of ComFooler. Now as papers printed in English were rarities in that particular camp, I spent my time after supper, while the others played cards, talked, etc., in reading. I read everything in the paper and wanted more. My only regretis that I have not a complete file of the paper as much has been chatted that I hate to miss. I have rolled around the West a great deal and if this letter is not marked I. C. (inspected and condemned) like some of Uncle Sam's cavalry horses, I will come again and tell the Eastern cousins about the Great Sioux reservation, wheat raising in Dak., the Bad Lands or cattler anching. I was personally acquainted with Big Foot and many of his band who were killed in the Wounded Knee fight last winter. Fannie, you ask how many of the girls like Dickens, I am not a girl, So I cannot say, but how can you help liking 'David Copperfield,' or fail to be interested in 'Oliver Twist' Why have none of you said that fyou like Carleton? The final verse of 'Over the hills from the poorhouse' I think is the best of all.

Come again, and tell us about all these interesting things. Good description is more profitable than so

A ROLLING STONE.

Come again, and tell us about all these interesting things. Good description is more profitable than so much fruitless discussion, for we all know that "A man convinced against his will Is of the same opinion still."

Is of the same opinion still."
"I have received hundreds of story papers through the mails, and after examining them by a thorough perusal I find Comfort the most intelligent, instructive and concise. Especially the letters from the cousins in which I take so much delight in reading. There is nothing that will feed and strengthen the mind of the young like reading good literature. Will some one be kind enough to give me the names of the leading hotels in Washington, D. C., Philadelphia, Penn., Boston, Mass., Augusta, Me.? ULYSSES.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Your chat column seems to

leading hotels in Washington, D. C., Philadelphia, Penn., Boston, Mass., Augusta, Mc.? ULYSSES.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Your chat column seems to be productive of such good results, that I take the liberty of applying for admittance to your fraternity. The tenor of most of the letters seems to be self improvement—reaching as high a goal as possible. As I am a stenographer and willing to do my little towards helping those who are willing to help themselves, I will give a few in search of self improvement lessons by mail. I will accept no remuneration except it be in the shape of a pleasant correspondence in shorthand, after having profited by the lessons as well as before. I am and always have been a student and as my correspondents progress I shall carry them along through a course of study entertaining as well as instructive. I am deeply interested in the mystical in religion, nature and literature and have gone far into the domain of research and found it a wonderful study. The subject opens to us such treasures, that looking at it from the humorous side, like Oliver Twist we cry, "More." I should prefer correspondents over eighteen years of age; and letters stamped and forwarded to Aunt Minerva will be addressed and mailed me.

I rather hesitated about printing your kind offer, friend Roger, for fear that you will be buried in the

addressed and mailed me.

I rather hesitated about printing your kind offer, friend Roger, for fear that you will be buried in the letters which you will receive; but finally decided to let you run your own risk. You can easily retain those who bid fair to be interesting correspondents and bright pupils, and drop the others.

I believe that I have been giving the nephews almost a monopoly of this month's space, so far; and really now, boys, the girls must have a chance. You get more talkative every day. I just now took fitteen etters out of my copy drawer before I could find one from a girl. You must never say anything about "the women talking so much," when you can make a record like that! record like that!

record like that! !

"I live in Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion. It is not a very large city, but is growing. Having lived here all my life, I am used to the scenery, but visitors say it is beautiful. We have the Parliament Buildings which we are very proud of. They consist of 3 blocks, and are built on a hill at the foot of which is a walk called "The Lovers Walk," which extends around the sides and rear. From the hill there is a view of the locks and park, and from the tower in the main building you can see the residence of our Governor General. There are 207 steps from the outside to the top of the tower. Your Canadian niece,

"I hope the cousins will not shrink from me when hey know I am an Indian. I will not hurt you, as I



A PERTINENT QUESTION. Phebe looks so sweet and lovely
When she feeds her pets,
One can scarce believe she ever
Sulks or quarrels or frets.
Come now! Phebe, tell us truly
Are you always thus?
Or sometimes real cross and hateful
Like the rest of us?

am civilized. There are some blanket Indians wild, and they are bad on stealing cattle and horses. When they speak to a white man they say 'How how John.' They come here for blankets and flour and beans which the U. S. gives them. They have some dances at which they paint their faces and bodies most hideously. I wish some of the cousins were here to go with me riding over the prairie on my little mustang. I have several Indian relics. If anyone wishes to know something of this beautiful Co. if they will write to me I will tell them.

"Our home is in Utah about 6 miles south of Salt

wishes to know something of this beautiful Co. if they will write to me I will tell them. INJUN.

"Our home is in Utah, about 6 miles south of Salt Lake City, in the midst of very beautiful scenery. Calder's Park, the famous pleasure resort, is but a short distance from our home. There is asmall lake, in which is built a pavilion for dancling. A large rustic bridge has been erected over the lake. There are also swings of different kinds, a race track, base ball ground, store and a refreshment room. A park surrounds the lake. The pavilion and also the grounds are lit up with electric lights. The boating is excellent. The lake is an artificial one, the water coming from artesian wells. The lake can be emptied at will, by removing a large dam in one end of the lake. A rather amusing incident occured there several years ago. A young lady and gentleman were boating, when the dam gave way. They being so much interested in each other (it is supposed) did not notice the water diminish, until too late to reach the landing. They were obliged to wait there in the centre of the lake, with their boat on the ground, until the dam was replaced, and the water deep enough to raise the boat.

RUBY and ETHEL HOWARD, Box 26, Mill Creek, Utah.

"I remember sometime ago one of the cousins ask-ing if there were not some Christian Endeavers."

enough to faise the boat.
Ruhy and Ethel Howard, Box 28, Mill Creek, Utah.
"I remember sometime ago one of the cousins asking if there were not some Christian Endeavorers among all of Aunt Minerva's nephews and neices. I amproud to say that I am one of the 1,008,900 Christian Endeavorers, and would say to those who are not, that they don't know what they are missing. We have grand meetings here in our little town of only 690 inhabitants. I had the honor and pleasure of being sent as a delegate from our local union to the Pennsylvania State Convention at Williamsport. There were 879 delegates registered, 200 was the number estimated who did not register. Every county in Pa. was represented there. One of the most noted speakers there was J. W. Baer, Sec. of United Society. He was on his way home from the Minneapolis Convention; he spoke of the wonderful meeting they had there. The closing consecration meeting was grand and solemn. The last song was 'God be with you,' then we were dismissed with the Mizpah benediction to meet again next year at Altoona. Correspondents solicited from those about my own age (22), also postal autos exchanged with all. Yours in C. E., RUHANNAH E. BRIDGENS, Box 55, Beech Creek, Pa. Where is the Endeavorer who does not love Secretary Bage? I have heard him speak at two conventors.

Where is the Endeavorer who does not love Secre-tary Baer? I have heard him speak at two conven-tions, at one of which he led the consecration meet-ing at 5.30 A.M.

"Although I'm a stranger to you, you are no stranger."

tary Baer? I have heard nim speak as a consistions, at one of which he led the consecration meeting at 6.30 A.M.

"Although I'm a stranger to you, you are no stranger to me, for I have been taking your valuable little paper for 2 years and have been benefited thereby. For by reading it my attention was called to the most wonderful Oxien which has benefited me so much. I love to read the cousins' interesting letters very much. I extend my heartfelt sympathy for those poor dear Shut-Ins, for who knows better than I how to sympathize with them, for I was an invalid for several years, was a part of the time a Shut-In. But by the Grace of God I was restored to very good health. A few words to you dear Shut-Ins, put your whole trust in the blessed Saviour and instead of reading novels read that blessed book the Bible and He will give you grace sufficient unto the day thereof. Why don't you all try Oxien? My husband is agent for it and we know it will do all it is claimed to do. Aunt Minerva, we celebrated Christmas upon your suggestion. Five families surprised a very poor family consisting of the father and mother and 6 small children. We had a fine dinner, and I suppose those little children never beheld, much less tasted, such a feast. It did our hearts good to behold them and we were amply repaid for our trouble and expense. I am so thankful so many of the cousins have embraced Christianity. That is what makes life worth living. Oh, may many others march under that banner and live for the God who made them. He gave us all we have, why not give all to Him and do all in our power to win others to Him? I would love to grasp you all by the hand. Your cousin,

BLACK EYES.

I am wery glad that you tried my suggestion for Christmas, and better still, that you enjoyed that way

I am very glad that you tried my suggestion for Christmas, and better still, that you enjoyed that way of spending the day. There is no pleasure in the world to be compared with that of bringing joy to others; and if we gain this at the expense of a little self-saerifice, so much the better.

world to be compared with that of bringing joy to others; and if we gain this at the expense of a little self-sacrifice, so much the better.

"How I love to read these letters! Every number I receive, I hurriedly turn its pages, overlooking all else for the time being, till I come to the Chat column—our own cosy little nock. Pedagogue, how well you have depicted your views. Surely no one can misconstrue your meaning now and I cannot imagine how such an erroneous idea could be gleaned from your first letter as some seemed to possess. I hold that a person can assuredly live a moral life without religion; but let no one have so much faith in his or her morality that they forget that to gain entrance into Heaven requires a 'new birth.' It is religion that is necessary for a place in Paradise. The correspondence question has abated, but may I not say a few words on it? Each and every one indulging in the practice should know for themsilves what is best for them. I'm sure any girl of common sense will not allow a man to continue writing to her if having once received an objectionable letter from him. A girl cannot be too careful, for having once acted indiscreetly in anything, and once fallen in virtue, she has a hard struggle to rise again to the position she once occupied. Men can do most anything, and it seems that bye and bye their low actions are torgotten. Leora St Clair, you would like to hear upon the subject of dancing. I can say that I've newer danced in my life and am not the least desirous to learn. The society one must enter at most oalls is not always the same we would choose away from them and so that accounts for my ignorance regarding that art (?) I've heard girls say they would rather dance than eat. What an expression! Can we not see what addle-pated creatures they are? D. G. B., how I should like to shake hands with you. Your sentiments are just mine over again. Girls, profit by Dick's advice. Shun any man that speaks slightingly of another girl, for a man of that stamp will likely have something

with others, however good and respectable you may be. Some men take pride in speaking slightingly of any woman. And now Wis. Wild Bill, I must say something concerning that—that great masculine freak of the nineteenth century. It does seem as if he meant all that wives were good for was to cook and sew. As he can do these things, he does not need a wife, he says. Verily the time is coming when all women will sit in the shade—left. Men will have no need of them; can do their own house keeping; love out of the question, has nothing whatever to do with the subject of marriage, you see.

Another niece has a good word to say on the sub-

Another niece has a good word to say on the subject of dancing.

ject of dancing.

"Dancing is an innocent amusement if no harm is made of it, but alas, how many make harm of it! I don't think it right for a Christian to attend balls and dance, for the eyes of the world are ever watching him and if he engages in worldly amusements he loses his influence. We, as Christians, should always live so we will be known as Christ's people wherever we are; and when we mingle with the world we are not following in His footsteps.

ANNIE HALL, Gravel Hill, Va.

"Will some of the consists who can he see hind see

Will some of the cousins, who can, be so kind as to send me flower seeds, roots and bulbs, and rooted slips of house plants of all kinds, etc., as soon as all danger of freezing is over. I am particularly desirous of getting cactus and Mannetta vine. I cannot return the favors much as I would like to, as I am not able to do so. My husband has not been able to work for a year and a half, and my little boy of 7 years is now lying on his back with a broken leg. With doctors bills and 7 small children to feed I have not much left for anything else. It is not much I ask, and yet I will be so grateful if the cousins respond, as I am a passionate lover of flowers without the means of satisfying my love for them. Your loving niece, L. M. JOHNSON, Jefferson, Greene Co., Iowa.

"I wish the COMPORT cousins would kindly send

L. M. JOHNSON, JEIERSON, Greene CO., 10WA.
"I wish the COMPORT cousins would kindly send
me anything they can on temperance, stories,
sketches, poems, etc. I will return the favor if possible. I need the reading matter for a noble work. I
would like to correspond with any COMPORT cousin
interested in temperance work. Your new niece,
CLARA B. WALKER, No. Raynham, Mass.

CLARA B. WALKER, No. Raynham, Mass.

"I am a widow with 2 children. I have lived in the Judith Mountains for 10 years past; the air is light here as we are so high up, and the climate is very changeable. Consequently almost everyone has that most loathsome disease catarrh. I live on a ranch and have teams and I would like to remove to some place farther west and south. I have always lived on a farm and would like to go where I could get Government land, or a cheap home, where I could rise fruit as well as grain or vegetables, and where the climate is milder. Now will not some one of the many subscribers to Comport, who has been situated like myself and has found a pleasant home and a milder climate, write to me, describing their country, climate, wages paid, and what the principal products are, also prices for same and what the average cost is to live. Here everything sells by the pound in the vegetable line; think of it, 6 cents a pound for potatoes!

Maiden, Fergus Co., Montana.

"I want to thank the kind friend living in Phila.

Maiden, Fergus Co., Montana.

"I want to thank the kind friend living in Phila.
who sent presents to my little blind daughter, I do
not know her address, so can only do so through
CCMPORT. My little girl is dead now. Many thanks
to those who tried to make her life brighter.

"HETTIE M. BLAINE, Polk City, Iowa.
"A young lady who wishes a home in a small family, may write to Mrs. J. H. K., Eureka, Kans.
"I will yenture to wite a few words in behalf of

"A young lady who wishes a home in a small family, may write to Mrs. J. H. K., Eureka, Kans.
"I will venture to write a few words in behalf of our good old State. The first settlement made by Englishmen in Virginia, and in America, was made at Jamestown, May 14th, 1607, by 100 settlers sent by Sir Thomas Gates and company, who had obtained a charter from James I. Indians of distinct nations, divided into tribes, and speaking different languages, occupied this State at the time of its settlement. Their rude implements and burial mounds are still found. We have some very pretty sceneries in old Virginia. Forests of native evergreen and deciduous trees still cover a large part of it. There is in Rock-bridge Co. one of the most stupendous natural bridges in the world. It has an elevation of above 200 ft., a span of 90, and a breadth of 60 ft., while the thickness of the arch in the centre is 46 ft. The bare blue rock is strikingly draped here and there with rich green foliage. Underneath the arch some 30 ft. from the bottom the letters G. W. are graven in the rock. These are the initials of George Washington, who was a native of Virginia and is said when a boy to have scrambled so far up the rock and proudly left behind him this memorial of the daring feat. I am glad to see so many interested in the cause of temperance. The curse of intemperance is the main cause of so many young men going to ruin. Will all the cousins write to me? I would like to hear from each and everyone. With best wishes for Auntie and all.

"I have been a reader of Comport for some time, but only a recent subscriber. When a number of old

and everyone. With best wishes for Auntie and all,

"I have been a reader of Comfort for some time, but only a recent subscriber. When a number of old copies were placed in my hands I thought of it as the poet did of the bed bug.

"The June bug leaves the last of June,
The lightening bug in May,
The bed bug takes his bonnet off
And says, 'I've come to stay.'

The little paper is truly Comfort by name and comfort by nature. I agree with Fannie about books, (but Fannie, we must whisper softly, 'we do not like Dickens'). I notice some of the cousins inquire about a course of reading. To the girls I will say, write to Miss A. E. Ticknor, 4l Marlborough St., Boston, Mass. Some have also asked for questions upon text books, such as are used in examination. I have quite a number of them and will be pleased to correspond with anyone upon the subject.

L. B. Buffington, Parkersburg, W. Va.
I have been very much interested in the Chats, especially of late.

respond with anyone upon the subject.

L. E. Buffington, Parkersburg, W. Va.

I have been very much interested in the Chats, especially of late. I think Cousin Dick must be a very sensible young gentleman indeed, he gives a bit of good advice which girls would do well to remember. By his letter I judge he does not talk of his latest mash or wear collars to such a height that he can just see out of them. Wisconsin Wild Bill, shake hands with a King's Daughter; I see you are able to fight your own battles. To Subscriber let me say, From Gotham to the Golden Gate, by Mrs. Frank Leslie, is an interesting book of travel through the West. Bits of Travel at Home' by H. H. (Helen Hunt Jackson) is good, another 'Three Vassar Girls at Home' is an interesting book of travel through the South. How many of the cousins have read 'Boots and Saddles' and Tenting on the Plains' by Mrs. E. B. Guster? Are they not splendid? I agree with Fanie—no Dickens.

I suppose we must now close our pleasant chatting. Will the cousins remember not to send subscriptions to me? it delays them very much, and causes unnecessary trouble. And I will also ask a favor: please do not ask me to answer by private letter unless it is a very important matter. The 6c, postage does not pay for my time and the work involved in writing a dozen or more letters every day or two. Please be considerate, dear friends.

With kindest wishes.



ANCIENT MARINERS. Quoth Mrs. B. to Mrs. C.,
"Boating's quite a fad with me."
Says Mrs. C., "I'm just the same,
To me all other sports are tameSurely there can be no bliss
That's equal to a sail like this," Circulars to put ont in most four months, \$3.00 per 1,000 paid, bount to house, Good men wanted in every county in U. S. to work for us, we pay CASE, here NOTHING TO BELL. Giranteesco. Enclose status. Mattend Advantage Go. 30 S. Clark St. Chicago, Ill.

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Address, MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

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AST SUNDAY there occurred in one of our best families a real sad scene of domestic unpleasantness. The thing swept across a brand-new honeymoon like a young cyclone, and opened the eyes of love's young dream to the fact that fate has planted some great big stumbling-blocks all over this sinful world. It all happened at the home of a young married couple, and, as usual, there was a woman in it, and it was all the man's fault. It seems that the groom, who halls from Jaysville, belongs to one of those swell families who always fry theirs in lard, and who are forever telling other people how their goose ought to be cooked. The bride is an auburn-haired Green Mountain belle, whose ancestors fit and bied for the Constitution and the flag. At home she was looked upon by every one as a cook from way back; and there's no flaw in her family pride, or flies on her pastry.

she was looked upon by every one as a cook from way back; and there's no flaw in her family pride, or flies on her pastry.

Now, every man has some fatal weakness; but this particular man's weakness was ple. They hadn't been married twenty-four hours before this fact dawned upon the fair bride; and during the first week of the honeymoon she was told just one hundred and seventeen times that his mother could bake the best pies in seven States, and was generally considered the best ali-around cook east of the Rocky Mountains. A game of conversation like this would have made some young wives feel real bad, but the little lady from Montpelier has too big a bump of intelligence to get miffed at a little thing like that. She learned a thing or two about men while she was at college, and she knows that the real seat of man's happiness is in his stomach. So she secretly sent to his mother for her prize pie formula, with all details, particulars, plans, and specifications appertaining thereto; then she set about to work out her own and her husband's salvation with womanly kindness and home-made pie. The result of her first effort fairly made the eyes of the pie fiend bulge out with delight; and hen not only called her a daisy right before the hired girl, but insisted that she was his own tootsy wootsy daisy at that. Her hopes quickly sild down hill, however, when he remarked, after a second helping, that while the pie was unquestionably good, it wasn't quite up to the parties his mother used to feed him. The little lady swallowed her disappointment with a pang, and tried again, but the result was practically the same. It was the fourth slice this time that called forth the cold-blooded statement that there was a certain soggy substance between the foundation and superstructure which geemed to harden the gums and promote internal misery, and which he had never found in his mother's pies. He added, incidentally, that his mother's family had been noted for generations for their pies, and that people for miles and miles aro



hers, but that they had all slipped up and fallen into the soup, as it were. This last cruel stab gave the poor girl a pain in her side, but again she silently gulped down her grief. That whole night, however, she dreamed of nothing but heart disease and plea, and she began to wonder whether marriage wasn't a failure. The following day she addressed a confidential letter to the mighty pie magician from Jays-ville, begging the loan of just such a pie as she used to stuff her hungry boy with. It came last Saturday, and the golden-haired daisy felt happy; but the villain still pursued her. On their way from church Sunday morning, he asked her what they were going to have for dinner; and when she passed back word that his favorite dish was on the programme, he said he was awful glad of it, because he was daily becoming more and more convinced that he was born with a mouth for pie. She had a great mind to tell him then and there that she wished he hadn't, but she choked her emotions into a sweet, sad smile, and asked him if he thought Jim Blaine would be the next President.

This pie business was beginning to make her very tired, and she looked forward to the dinner hour with a good deal of anxiety, for somehow or other she felt that something was going to happen. The previous night a hound pup in the neighborhood had howled for two hours; and, while she isn't at all superstitious, she does believe in signs just a little bit. Still, after they were once seated at the table, her nerve came back, and when at last she asked the pie paralyzer to 'take his medicine,' she did it with a grace that was simply immense. But it was a supreme moment. With one eye she anxiously watched his countenance, while the other rested on a beautiful motto, "God alless Our Home." 'that hung on the wall consoling

'take his medicine,' she did it with a grace that was simply immense. But it was a supreme moment. With one eye she anxiously watched his countenance, while the other rested on a beautiful motto, "God Bless Our Home," that hung on the wall opposite, and which she had, single-handed and alone, worked for him in rainbow-colored worsted on paper canvas the day before they were married. She could almost hear her heart beat as she waited for the verdict. He hadn't got far with the first slice when, with a sickly sort of a smile, he remarked that although her ple looked all right, the crust wasn't quite as delicate as that which his moth — But he never got any farther. In an instant the tongue and temper of the mountain maiden went off like a fire-alarm clock, and, seizing the pie, she dashed it against the suspended motto with the accuracy and force of a champion base-ball pitcher; and before he could throw up his hands, she told him that all he lacked to being a first-class jackass was another pair of legs and more brains. Just at this interesting point a lady from next door dropped in to say that her baby had the measles, and that she thought she'd look in upon love's young dream. To a party of friends this lady said afterwards that she had seen the most original and picturesque bit of oldgold spatter work in Maine, and she only wondered whether it was copied from an old masterpiece, or done by one of our modern impressionists. Such is life!

A devour old darkey of our acquaintance was

A DEVOUT old darkey of our acquaintance was asked by a neighbor if he believed his prayers were answered by the Creator. "That depends entirely how I words my petition," said he. "If I prays the good Lord to send me a turkey, I won't get it; but if I prays the good Lord to send me after a turkey, I always gets it before day break."

Last week he arrived at the gates of our city, and asked us to loan him the sum of ten cents until the cows come home.

A good many of our readers have seen him, for he is known from Kennebunk to Kalamazoo, and here is his picture. He isn't handsome, his clothes don't fit him, and he don't belong to the 400; but he can ask for something to eat in fourteen different languages. And still he isn't happy. If he had another suspender, and could earn his living in one language, there would be more sunshine in his life. He suffers a good deal from what great heads call "that tired feeling," and judging from his thirst he was born on an awfully dry day. He is never in a hurry until the farmer's wife sends "Old Watch" to interview him, and then he runs like a Democratic candidate in Texas. There are only two things he can't digest—raw dog and work.

To Mr. Horatio Stout, Neversink, Nova Scotia,—

To Mr. Horatio Stout, Neversink, Nova Scotia,—
The Anti-Gout Chicken Soup was invented by a Cincinnati hotel man in the spring of the year 1887. The plan is simple, and there ought to be money in it. Briefly summed up, it is this:—
A live chicken is mounted on stilts, as shown in the illustration here given, and made to wade through a pot of water seasoned with onions and a little sait and pepper. For

AMERICAN WOMAN that marrieth foreign nobility is of many days, and full of trouble. She goeth forth in the springtime of life cooing like a dove, and slingeth herself away upon some imported mucklehead who calleth himself a count; and presently she returneth to the parental rooflet as meek as a moist mother hen, and unfoldeth a powerfully sad tale. She entereth upon her honeymoon most gloriously well heeled, and lo! she cometh back on an exceedingly cold day, and monkeyeth her daily bread out of the keys of a typewriter.

She journeyeth hence as an American dudess, housed in a private car and royal stateroom, and she travelleth homeward as an Italian countess, packed in an emigrant steerage and chilly caboose. She departeth from the land of her fathers wearing rich gowns and jewels that verily are a caution to behold, and when she re-appeareth she is clad in the chilly garment of the night, and resembleth a symphony in rags. She loancth her purse to



sweet music of the giddy waltz, and heareth in place thereof many cuss words of exceedingly great force. And when she looketh for high art in a low-neck dress, she seeth, instead, the count knocked out by her adult brother in home spun and great shape. In the near subsequently she seeketh the sunny skies of Italy, and learneth, ains! that she is no count eas whatsoever, but merely the fifth wife of a bankrupt organ-grinder banished from Rome.

Verily, it doth appear that royal mucklehead who marrieth American heiress is small I potatoes and few in a hill. It appeareth likewise that American heiress who throweth herself away upon imported mucklehead secureth a through ticket on the well-anointed to adown the slippery slope of mis

that glideth adown the slippery slope of misery hill.

THE Philadelphia maiden who is so modest that she will not go to bed while the "Christian Observer" is on her table, has been outdone by the bashful Boston belie who declines to walk up a steep hill because i makes her breath come in short pants.



A Skowhegan man is going to patent an ingenious device, which promises to revolutionize the pie business. He calls it the "Indestructible, Food Economizing, Health Promoting Pie Crust," and a syndicate of New York capitalists are already negotiating for its purchase. Ground will be broken early next month, and the enterprise is to be known as the North American Pie Trust.

The invention consists of a proceas by which lifelike imitations of pie crust are manufactured from a secret combination of vulcanized rubber and oleomargarine. These patented pie skeletons are composed of sectional parts—halves, quarters, sixths, or eighths, as desired—which are cleverly joined by means of invisible self-acting clamps. They may be used for any kind of pie, cannot possibly be eaten, and are guaranteed to last seven years. Samples which have been in constant use for six months in a railway eating station in Connecticut, show no signs of wear or tear, and a New Haven man, who claims to know what he is talking about, says they cannot be distinguished from the orthodox dys-pepsia developers by the naked eye, and that the days of the simon-pure pie, such as we hankered after when the country was young, are numbered. The new pie foundry will undertake to furnish "Patent Outsides" in any size, shape, or color, from the pale, round seaside or sample variety, to the beautiful nut-brown pumpkin, all homemade, and guaranteed a yard wide.

A correspondent who



Adopt: R Cold Lead, ½ oz.

Directions. — Make into one pill, and apply to the dog's head with a Smith & Wesson revolver.

One of our fellow-citizens by the weird, wild name of McGinty was arrested last Saturday for robbing a gentleman of his watch; and although the evidence was dead against him, he insisted that he was innocent. When the judge pressed him to explain how it happened that the watch was found in his possession, he said it was given to him, but finally admitted that he had to knock the giver down four times before he handed it over.

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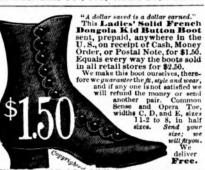
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Dear Cousins:

I thank you very much for so generously responding to my appeal for recipes. Quite a good number have been sent in, and I begin to feel encouraged once more, and to think that you appreciate my efforts to help you in your housekeeping.

A number of requests are still before us which I would like to see answered. "New Beginner" would like the recipe for "3 hour bread."

Several have requested more ideas for cooking meats, fish, etc. I find among the letters now on hand, one which gives some excellent hints on the preparation and cooking of

Great care should be taken to well clean the fish before it is dressed. Fresh water fish have often a muddy taste and smell, which may be got rid of by soaking them in strong salt and water before they are cooked. Salt fish should be soaked in water before using according to the time it has been in salt. When it is hard and dry, it will require 36 hours soaking before it is dressed, and the water must be changed two or three times. When fish is not very salt, 24 or even one night will suffice.

TO FRY FISH.

Cleanse them thoroughly, dry them on a folded cloth, dredge flour lightly over them, brush them with a well-beaten egg, then dip them in fine bread crumbs. Have ready enough melted lard or beef dripping (clarified) to entirely cover the fish. Place the frying-pan over a clear fire. Let the lard reach boiling point, and then immerse the fish in it. Then fry, turning the fish when one side is browned to the other.

A clear fire is required. Rub the bars of your gridiron with dripping or a piece of beef suet, to prevent the fish from sticking to it. Put a good piece of butter into a dish, work into it enough salt and pepper to season the fish. Lay the fish on it when it is broiled, and with a knife put the butter over every part of it.

TO BOIL FISH.

Put the fish in the saucepan and a little more than half cover it with boiling water. Cover closely and boil gently till done. A little saltpetre or a few spoonsfuls of vinegar may be added to the water to render the boiled fish

firm.

To BAKE A LARGE FISH WHOLE.

Cut off the head and split the fish down nearly to the tail; prepare a dressing of bread, butter, pepper gud sait, moistened with a little water. Fill the fish with this dressing, and bind it together with fine cotton cord, lay the fish on a bake pan or a dripping pan, and pour around it a little water and melted butter. Baste frequently. A good sized fish will bake in an hour. Serve with the gravy of the fish or oyster sauce.

Have the ingredients cooked on the day you wish them to be eaten. Put your codfish to soak a day and a half and then boil until tender. Have your potatoes boiling too. When the fish is done, pull every lump, no matter how small, apart until it is light and feathery. Mash the potatoes until they are perfectly smooth; add a little cream or milk, and a little butter but not enough to color them; mix all thoroughly; roll into flat smooth balls, about one-half inch thick. A little raw onion, chopped fine, is delicious mixed through them, just sufficient to flavor. Fry a good brown, in plenty of hot lard. Cooked oysters, laid on before eating, make them still better. Mrs. H.

Those are all most excellent and helpful rules for the young housekeepers. I have also one of Cousin Annie's good letters, full of tried and tested recipes.

one of Cousin Annie's good letters, full of tried and tested recipes.

Dear Cousin Ceres:—I have just received my February Comport. I, for one, cannot afford to have you go begging for recipes, as I value your page most of all. I think there must be a great many cousins who have not yet sent you any recipes; that is not right, the cousins should make your page, yes, and other pages as well, a real game of give and take, and try to give as much as they take. If any cousin knows something which helps her, she should not take it for granted that everyone knows it, but sit right down and write it out for Comport. I will send you some of my recipes from my note book of experience, experiments. How many of the cousins keep a little note book to jot down little notes of experience, for future reference, I wonder. Come, cousins, just give Aunt Minerva a little time to send in the letters she has on hand, and to rest her tired fingers, and devote a little more time to Cousin Ceres' and Busy Bee's pages.

NUT CANDY, (Splendid).

One pound of brown snogar to each round of

and Busy Bee's pages.

NUT CANDY, (Splendid).

One pound of brown sugar to each pound of English walnuts, pick the nuts first, then put the sugar in a large frying pan, and add half a cup of boiling water for each pound of sugar, let it come to a boil, and boil 10 minutes, when done scatter the nuts on a buttered plate and pour the candy over them, stir and lift it until it looks like sugar again.

it looks like sugar again.

GOOD REMEDIES FOR COLDS.

FLAXSEED LEMONADE.—Four tablespoons flaxseed (whole), I quart boiling water poured on
the flaxseed, juice of 2 lemons, sweeten to
taste, steep 3 hours in a covered pitcher. Children like it.

SLIPPERY ELM BARK TEA.—Break the bark
into bits, pour boiling water over it, add lemon
juice, sweeten to taste, let stand till cool.

ONION GRUEL.

ONION GRUEL.

Slice a few onions and boil them in milk, stir in a little oatmeal, a very little salt, boil till the onions are tender.

PEACH PUDDING.

1 quart peaches, 1 cup sugar, butter size of an egg, put in baking pan, thicken with 2 large tablespoonfuls of corn starch, cover with crust. Bake 1 hour.

Beat the whites of 6 eggs, add the beaten yolks and toss them together, add the juice of 1 lemon, 3 cups sugar, 3 cups flour, stir well, put in patty pans, sprinkle with powdered sugar and bake.

BGG BISCUIT.

1 pint of flour, 3 eggs, 1 pint of milk, a pinch salt, bake in greased cups.

BEATEN BISCUIT.
1 quart of flour, 2 tablespoonfuls of butter, a

little salt, mix with milk or water, beat half an hour, cut, prick with a fork, and bake in very hot oven.

STRAWBERRY BISCUIT.

Crush some fresh berries and use the juice instead of milk or water, or you can use half cream and half juice; the juice of many other fruits can be used in the same way, of course the juice must be sweetened to taste.

LOG CABIN BREAD.

1 pint of flour, 1 cup corn meal, 1 cup warm water, 1-2 cup wast, 1-2 cup maple syrup, 1-2 teaspoonful salt, 1 teaspoonful pork drippings, 1 egg, pinch of allspice, mix all well together, with enough flour to knead well, let rise twice, make into loaves and bake 3-4 of an hour.

BUNS.

1 quart flour, 1 cup butter, 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder, 1 large cup sugar, 1 beaten egg, 1 cup milk, 1 teaspoonful lemon extract, bake quickly.

SWAN'S NEST PUDDING.

Put a quart of milk to boil in a saucepan, separate the yolks and whites of 3 eggs, beat the whites to a stiff froth with 1-2 a cup of powdered sugar, drop in large egg shaped spoonfuls into the boiling milk, and cook for 2 minutes. Arrange in a pretty china bowl some candied orange peel in the form of a nest, put in the eggs. To the yolk add a tablespoonful of corn starch, a little cold milk, flavor with orange flower, thicken over the fire (do not boil) and pour over the nest.

FRIED BREAD.
Cut slices of nice stale bread, dip in egg and milk and fry in butter or sweet drippings.

FRIED BATTER.

Beat 2 eggs light, put into 1-2 cup of milk with a little salt, have your frying pan hot, and fry brown on both sides; very nice for breakfast.

Mince cold boiled potatoes fine, to 1 teacup-ful add 2 beaten eggs, a pinch of pepper and salt, and milk to moisten so it can be made into small, round cakes, fry in butter, serve hot.

small, round cakes, fry in butter, serve hot.

WHITE FRUIT CAKE.

Cream 1 pound of sugar and 1-2a pound of butter together; sift in 1 pound of flour with 2 teaspoonfuls of baking powder; add 1 teacupful of chopped citron, 1 of pounded almonds, 1 of seeded raisins, a grated cocoanut, and the juice of a lemon, beat well and stir in gently the whites of 10 eggs. Pour in a greased mould and bake. When cold, ice with cocoanut icing.

Cut 10 sour apples onto quarters and peel, put them in a kettle and cover with boiling water, add 2 cups of sugar and stew until they are clear. Line a large dish with slices of sponge cake, put the apples over, make a hole in the center and fill with currant jelly. Set in the oven for 20 minutes, take out, cover the top with slices of sponge cake and serve with butter and sugar.

Five large Potato Rolls.

ter and sugar.

POTATO ROLLS.

Five large potatoes mashed while warm, add 1 quart of flour, salt to season, 1 teacup of milk, stir until light, make into rolls, let stand 2 hours then bake.

CORN DODGERS.

To a light quart of meal mix 1 teaspoonful of soda, 1-2 teaspoonful salt, 1 pint of fresh buttermilk, bake in moderate oven.

soda, 1-2 teaspoonful salt, 1 pint of fresh buttermilk, bake in moderate oven.

A VALUABLE INSTITUTION IN THE KITCHEN.

The stock pot is not only an economical, but
also a very convenient addition to the supply of
kitchen utensils. It insures the saving of
bones of cooked joints, which would otherwise
be thrown away without any attempt to extract the nutritious substances they contain;
and it also provides the cook with a constant
supply of material for her gravies or sauces. It
need not be a large nor an expensive one for
this purpose. Where an ordinary kitchen
range is used, the stock pot may be a common
stoneware jar provided with a lid, of the size
and shape that can be put in the oven. Into
this jar bones of cooked joints, poultry and
game, trimmings of meat cooked or uncooked
can be put, covered with cold water and left to
simmer for hours. The bones must be broken
into small pieces, in order that the gelatine
that they contain may be dissolved by coming
in contact with the water. When the oven is
heated for cakes, etc., the jar must be taken
out, as it must not be allowed to boil. This
stock when strained and allowed to become
cold, that the fat may be removed, is quite good
enough for gravies, sauces, or vegetable soups,
the fat may be put with other dripping.

When frying doughnuts, if they are inclined
to soak fat, a teaspoonful of vinegar put in the
lard will often correct the trouble, cover carefully or the fat will sputter. Yours for success
in the kitchen,

Cousin Annie.

Here are two recipes which are acceptable at
this season of the year.

Here are two recipes which are acceptable at this season of the year.

VINEGAR PIE.

For 3 vies, take 2 cups sugar, 1 cup water, 1 cup vinegar, 2 eggs, 2 tablespoonfuls of flour, a little butter and nutmeg, boil all together in double kettle and bake with 2 crusts. Splendid.

did.

LEMON PIE.

For 1 pie, yolks of 3 eggs, juice of 1 lemon, 1 heaping cup sugar, 1 cup water, 1-2 cup flour, when done take the whites of the eggs well beaten, 6 tablespoonfuls white sugar, cover the pie and brown nicely. Good.

I think the cousins will like these recipes, as at this time of the year eggs are plenty and berries and other filling somewhat scarce.

"Seeing a request for a recipe for crullers. I

"Seeing a request for a recipe for crullers, I will send mine.

CRULLERS. CRULLERS.

2 cups sugar, 1 cup sweet milk, 3 eggs, 1 tablespoonful butter, 1 1-2 teaspoonfuls baking
powder sifted with a quart of flour, beat the
eggs separately and then together, add the
other ingredients, add more flour till the dough
is quite stiff, cut into figures and fry in hot
lard. Crullers made strictly by this recipe will
not soak fat.

Mrs. Allie Nickerson.

With renewed thanks for the kindness of those who have sent recipes, I will bid you good-bye for this time. The dear cousins would help me very much in my work, if when sending recipes, they would write on one side of the paper only. With best wishes,

COUSIN CERES, (Care of COMFORT.)

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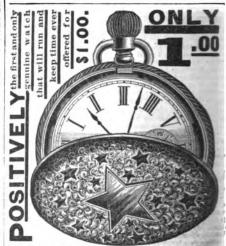
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FOR GUESSES ON THIS REBUS!



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J. C. M.



MY DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:

Glad I am to greet you once again at Comfort's Realm, and to find such a large and brilliant company gathered, anxious to find out what to Ideastle has in store for them this month—what he has brought with him in that quaint old carpet-bag, from his ancient home in "Mystic Land," to amuse and instruct them. And some new recruits coming to the front—I do declare! Shake hands and become acquainted with the rest of "Our Mystic Band." We are glad to welcome you and hope you will become permanent contributors and solvers to "The Mystic Castle." If you can compose puzzles, send some for publication; also if you take pleasure in solving them, send your list of solutions to the "Mysteries," each month, and try to win one of the useful prizes. Address, Oldcastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y., and give right name and address as well as nom de piume every time you write.

Now for the contents of the mysterious carpet-bag. First, is the large excellent batch of "Intricate Knots from Puzzledom," which I know will be interesting to us all and will require some quiet, calm deliberation to disentangle. Try your best to get a complete list, but send whatever you get, be it a single solution.

The prize for a double six-letter square, i.e. reading differently down and across, offered by Remardo, is awarded to Ed Ward, Brooklyn, N. Y., whose production appears in this issue.

"Payne's Business Pointers" offered by Doc for the best batch of "flats," is awarded to Ft. Dont, Rockport, Me., who sent an excellent batch of "cons" in competition.

Puzzles from the following have been received since my last journey:—S. Payne, 9; F. I. Dont, Augusta Blake, 6; J. C. M., 6; Merlin, Ray, 4; Guardineer, Aspiro, 2; Ed Ward, Waldemar, R. V. and Ypsie I each. Solvers to February "Mystic Castle" are as follows: Doc, 7; Eglantine, Sphinx, McGregor, Hercules, W. E. Wiatt, 7; Ed Ward, C. E. Bechtel, Waldemar, Frozen Rain, Ypsie, Aspiro, Tyro, Frank, A. E. B., Hi A. Watha, Buck I. Solver, 6; Andox, Beb, Sunshine, J. C. M., Arty Fish

4. Holand.

Ray sent a list of solutions to Jan. "Mystic Castle" too late to be acknowledged in our last issue.

Oldcastle has much he would like to say to his Mystic Friends, but in order not to crowd any of the "Mysteries" out of this number, he must make an end to his chat and wait until his next journey to the Realm of Comfort, so bidding you good-bye for this time, I remain,

Your dear old Mystic Friend, OLDCASTLE.

SOLUTIONS TO FEBRUARY'S MYSTERIES. No. 281. Thomas Babington Macaulay. No. 284. Dosser. No. 285. Religion. No. 286. L-arum. No. 287. Grate-rate-ate-eat-at-t.

No. 289.

PROSER

REMOVE

OMELET

SOLANO

EVENER

RETORT

No. 293.

E

No. 303. Diamond.

I. A letter. 2. A fowl. 3. Ulcers. 4. An oppressive relaxing wind from the Libyan deserts. 5. A sillcious stone, a variety of quartz. 6. The science of weighing air. 7. Resembling nectar. 8. The black diver or duck, a marine fowl of the genus Oldemia of Fleming, (plur.) 9. Son of Simon II, high priest of the Jews, (A. M. 3805.) 10. Age, duration. 11. A letter.

No. 304. Prize Double Square. (To Remardo.)

(To Remardo.)

Across. 1. The three-banded armadillos. 2. A postoffice of Harrison Co., Is., (P. O. Guide.) 3. A ruler of Russia. 4. An idiot. 5. Eternal, (Poet.) 6. Laid a tax upon, (obs.)

Down. 1. A class of strongly basic substances derived from ammonia. 2. Characterized by refinement. 3. Old sayings. 4. Those who speak wildly. 5. An epithet of God, (Century Dictionary.) 6. Set firm.

Brooklyn, N. Y., No. 305. Letter Enigma ED WARD.

No. 305. Letter Enigma.

Please catch a bird, ye witty ones,
From the forest here below;
A prize awaits the lucky one,
Who first its name will show.

In the "willow" by the brook,
In the "birch" and "codar" look;
In the "mountain-ash" and "teak,"
In the "poplar" tulip tree,
In the "elim" and "maple," see;
In the "juniper" and the "pine,"
For food its flesh is very fine.
Rockport, Me.,
The author offers a suitable prize for the first overest solution.

No. 306. Charade.

When gazing on the wide dreary **rst*, I said,
"Nature will soon **second you with bloom and life,"
On ripened **third great honor should be laid,
And my **shoke does service in times of strife.
Providence, R. I.,
RAY.

No. 307. Half Square.

1. A tree whose bark has an aromatic smell and taste. 2. One of the numerous small planets, whose orbits are situated between those of Mars and Jupiter. 3. Studded with stars. 4. Caravansaries. 5. The edge formed by two surfaces meeting each other. 6. Ill-wishers. 7. To clear. 8. A Latin preposition. 9. In "Oldcastle."

Colebrook, Wisc., S. PAYNE.

No. 308. Crossword. In freedom not in slave, In martyr not in knave; In castle not in hall,

In winter not in fall;
In Iceland not in Wales,
In claymore not in mails;
In beauty not in plain,
In hailstone also in rain;
In landscape not in sea,
In bound not in free.
These hidden letters, ten, you see,
Compose a brilliant company.
Richmond, Va.,

No. 309. Charade.

No. 305.

My first is in This,
My last is in Bliss,
And my second in what you can see;
My whole, at a glance,
Is a genus of plants,
And it yields a blue dye, very free.
San Francisco, Cal.,
No. 310. Enigma.

No. 310. Enigma.
You'll find me short;
Of colors I have five.
In dressing me for parties,
Not much pleasure you'll derive.
I'm always fixed up nicely
In fashions of the day,
My colors are respectively,
Black, brown, yellow, red and gray.
Hazen, N, Dakota,
No. 311. Enigma.

No. 311. Enigma.

No. 311. Enigma.

All over the world by beauties I'm sought,
A leader of fashion holds to me fast,
Even old hags have by watchers been caught,
In the use of me as they thought of the past.
It's true that some kings in the long years ago,
All my importance in life could not see,
But to-day in all courts none fail to know
How the ladies all smile on greeting me.
Of various sizes—can you not guess?
(Sometimes I am worth, though small, not the less,
Though the larger, the more are sweet glances cast,)
What I am, when on your mind I impress
That without me, in style no one can dress—
And that in these lines I'm found, save the last.
San Francisco, Cal.,
No. 312. Enigma.
The first comes early in the morn,

No. 312. Enigma.

The first comes early in the morn,
The second sounding in a horn;
Third is yourself, as others call you,
Fourth of your name, it may befall you.
Fifth, what before you stands for supper,
Steth is midway from bit to crupper.
Seventh, the beginning of the end,
Eighth is required the same to mend.
Ninth, an ingredient of bread,
The same without it may be read,
Tenth, take one-half and be assured,
Three letters more will end the word.
A live volcano thus expressed,
Is found in Asia, in the west.
Hopkinsville, Ky.,
No. 313. A Biblical Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A Hebrew measure of cap

DELIAN.

No. 313. A Biblical Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A Hebrew measure of capacity. 3.
The place in which Jair the judge was buried. 4. An Egyptian city spoken of in Genesis. 5. A city in the land of Gilead. 6. The grandfather of King Saul. 7. A letter.

Gouldshoro Sta Pa

No. 314. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A wager. 3. Chastised. 4. Collects to a point. 5. Small banners. 6. A person a hundred years old. 7. Forming a raised level space of earth. 8. A township in Cumberland Co., Me. 9. To bite. 10. To yield. 11. A letter.

Ardmore, Pa.,

REMARDO.

No. 315. Charade, I love my well-earned first to take, Whenever I am second; (I always was a lazy dog, At least, 'tis thus I'm reckoned.)

Yet, what's more whole for weary man,
Dull, cross, almost a wreck and
Tired out, than first to scan,
As often as he's second?
Worcester, Mass., No. 316. Charade.

No. 316. Charade.

When lo! at last a Prize I won—
A whole of Poems, one, Two sent,
With which, I own, I'm quite content.
Go, Poser, old or late recruit,
Compose some cons you think will suit,
And when the autumn yields its fruit,
A whole prime you may chance to come
From some kind Ed. in Puzzledom—
A gilt-edged All—for you, a snarler
At Puzzle Eds. (You think they sli ht you,
While doing their prettlest to deligh, you,
And offering Prizes to incite oou,
And, often, to encourage, write you,
And to their weddings may invite you,
The which they have a perfect right to,
On seened card,) to grace your parlor.
Dubois, Ills., Dubois, Ills.,

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

For the first three complete or largest list of solutions to this month's "Mysteries," the following prizes will be awarded:

1. U. S. Weather Signal.

2. Mammoth Stamping Outfit.

3. Carl's Treasure Cabinet.

Specials:—Two six-months' subscriptions to Competition closes July 1, 1892.

Competition closes July 1, 1892.

Solutions, solvers and prize-winners in August "Mystic Castle."

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Is he Alive? Of course. It laughs, sings, and its cries are of a piercing character to nearly discrete are of a piercing character to nearly done of the course of a piercing character to nearly done of the course of the course





IF YOU READ THIS REBUS!



The above Rebus represents something that every woman and girl would like to have in her parlor. WHAT IS IT! We will give a hard some 7 Octave Upright Pianeto the first person sending a correct solution to the above Rebus before June 30th, 1892. To each of the next ten a Solid Gold Watch, not plated but SOLID GOLD, with a genuine American movement. To each of the next five, a S50 Singer Improved High Arm Sewing Machine. To each of the next ten, a Handsome Silik Dress Pattern of 14 to 18 yards. You can choose between Black, Gray, Blue, Green, Brown or Wine Color, and we will send the color of your choice. To the next twenty, we will give to each one a Handsome Genuine Solid Nickel Silver Cased Watch, with genuine American movement, stem wind and set. With your answer to the Rebus we require you to send 30 cents, money or stamps, and we will mail you our Repage 64-column paper "AMERICAN COTTAGE HOME" on trial six months. To every person who sends 9c Extra Postage we will send free the handsomest picture on earth (size fix 23 inches) as an extra premium. The July issues of our publications will announce the results of this offer, and the names and rull address of every prize winner will be printed. This offer is made solely to advertise our publications and introduce them into new homes. We are well able and shall promptly give all we offer to those who guess this Rebus, Give your full name and P.O. address. Our addressis AMERICAN COTTAGE HOME. AMERICAN COTTAGE HOME, Opp. P. O., Jersey City, N. J.

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A PRIZE REBUS! 10 E C

The above Rebus is the name of one of the States in this glorious Union. To the first person who sends the correct answer before June 360th, 1892, we will give \$150.00 in CASH. To the second, 75 Dollars in Cash. To the third, 25 Dollars Cash. To each of the next ten, a SOLID GOLD WATCH (not plated but \$0.014 Gold), with genuine American movement. To each of the next five, a \$50 Singer Improved High Arm Sewing Man hine. To each of the next five, a S50 Singer Improved High Arm Sewing Man hine. To each of the next ton, a Handsome Silk Bress Pattern of 14 to 18 yards. You can choose between Black, Gray, Blue, Green, Brown or Wine Color, and we will send the color of your choice. To the next twenty-five we will give to each one a Handsome Genuine Soll Meleci Silver Cased Watch, stom wind and sot, with genuine American movement. We send these premiums the same day your guess is received, all express charges prepaid, to the limit of this offer. With your answer to this Rebus, we require you to send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send thirty cents, and we will mail you out Send the Send Watch S



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... AND WORK.

KENSINGTON STAMPING was never more popular than to-day. Many ladies making high wages working at home, odd hours. Besides beautifying your own home you can make 15c. every 5 minutes you stamp for others. If you only devote 3 hours a day to it, the snug little sum of 55 and over comes in, as the prices range from 5c. to 81 for each pattern you stamp. An inventive genius has lately modernized machinery for turning out these patterns by the hundred yards as fast as you can reel off a ball of yarn, so their cost is barely making to what it was last year. We send the patterns on strips about two feet long and seven inches wide. Nearly as good as many 5c. and 81 ones now being sold. We bus on many of this one kind that we can lead every sold. We bus on many of this one kind that we can lead every about a fool long down to single siphabet letters. We have the front about a fool long down to single siphabet letters. We have to the control of the largest letters and the property of the largest letters and have controlled to introduce our magnazine. "Comfort," with its greatly improved departments, we will send the above outfit, Free, postpasid, to all three months' (12c.) subscribers, and also send a new book or Manual of Instruction in the art of stamping. Just printed. It describes how to make all colors of powder, and instructs you in every manner of working the patterns. If you enclose 12c, at once, we make you a present of above.



THE road just now is about as dreary and uninteresting as one could well imagine. The long low stretch of prairies is unbroken save by a small hill here and there guarded by a sentinel coyote. At the first approach of danger the peculiar dog-like yell of this singular denizen of the plain is heard and a wild scamper is made for shelter. In the far away distance a long low range of inky blackness denotes the entrance to the canon, and the worn out passengers welcome even this unpleasant change from the monotony of the journey. Coolness and shade at least awaits them, and though danger may lurk behind the jutting boulders, that is only a possibility and not a probability. I am sitting on the box next the driver, a huge burly fellow whose claim to beauty if he ever had any, long ago succumbed to some facial decorations acquired during sundry experiences incident to his career as hotel keeper, sheriff and stage driver. An angry red scar which extended almost from ear to ear was the result of an "argyment" he confidently informed me, during which his antagonist "Climbed the golden stairs" to quote from his own classic language, and the third finger which was missing from his left hand was also the result of an "argyment." It had been shot off. "But you ought to seen the other feller," was his laconic answer to my look of surprise. Added to all this was an angular cut over the left cheek bone which certainly gave an appearance not at all lovely to look upon.

"Would you mind telling me about it?" I finally ventured.

"Well'twas this way. You see me an' Red Jim wot was working for the L. S. & D. Co., them days had a sort of celebrashin back here at Billy the Kid's just fore we started out. I allus told Jim he was the cheapest man to get drunk? ever seed and we hadn't got outside three beers fore Jim had jest the elegantest frisbe lever seed on a man. That made me weary. I couldn't see no use in startin' out with a bummer half-shot, so I says to myself we'll movey along all by our loney.

"There wuz some ugly goin's on

camp out here and I knew we nad pay-dirtso I didn't have the heart to 'em.

"There was a load of passengers besides. A couple of doods and a school marm from Boston among 'em. I t'ought she owned the eart. Isi'me by we came to the cut. I was trying to sing sumpin' like what I heard down East about Tom not wanting to leave his mother. Ever hear it?"

"No," I hastened to reply fearing he might give me a sample verse.

"Well you'd oughter hear me when I'm feelin' good. I'm a leettle bit husky to-night. Me throat's dry. You haven't got a flask wid you stranger, hev you?"

I had.

"Thanks," said he as the last drop disappeared down the fearful orifice he called a mouth. "Powerful good stuff that. Tastes like sand paper all the way down."

Never having tasted the luxury sand paper, I was in doubt whether the observation was complimentary or not. But from the satisfactory look on his face I concluded that he liked the effect of sand paper on his wind galls and nodded my appreciation.

"As I was saying," he

and nodded my appreciation.

"As I was saying," he resumed, "I had just got to the cut when I saw the leaders rise up in the air and I knew we was caught."

"Trow up yer hands!"

"Now when you've been on the road as long as I have you won't ax any questions when a gent asks you to do a little thing like that.

"Come out here all of."

"The young feller in front of me turned his head in the direction of the shot and in a moment I had knocked him down and grabbed his pistol.

"I sprang behind the rocks and a dozen balls fell about me in a shower as I reached cover. Consternation seized the robbers. I was concealed meself while the whole band was at me mercy. Bang went the pistol and the leader staggered and fell. Bang! bang! and two more

bit the dust. I felt a sudden twinge in me side and I knew I had been hit.
"Things was beginnin to look kinder rocky but I thought I hed them. I knew they couldn't stand there to be shot at and I still had four halls left.

"'Oh! please don't shoot any more. Here's my watch and my port mantle,' I heard one of the doods say.

"I stuck my hat on the end of a stick and held it out. Six Winchesters blazed away, while at the same time a shot came from inside the stage.
"'Gosh,' said I, 'that's sure deth.'

"It was the Boston school marm an' she was blazin' away for all she was worth.

"Go it old gall, said I, we'll fix 'em."

"In a few moments the bandits disappeared. They captured nearly all our spare change and some we couldn't spare but the stuff for the miners was all O. K.

"In a few moments I had the horses quieted down and we went along. It looked like a bad hole at first, but we got out of it in great shape. Have you a pipe, stranger?"

No. I hadn't a pipe, but I had some cigars and in a moment of weakness I pulled forth a box of fine Havannas which article I am never without and having just returned from South America where one can enjoy the luxury of a good cigar at a small expense. I chanced to have them in easy reaching distance. My heart failed me for fear I would not be able to procure more, but when such a searching look reaches one, and after his description of the fight with the road agents. I dared not refuse, for fear a fate equally as bad or worse than that



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third, \$200; to the next fifty, \$20 each to the last person answering, \$500; to the third the next to the last, \$300; to the third the next to the last, \$300; to the third preceding, \$20 each; or to EVERY person answering, we will each; or to EVERY person as wering, we will each; or to EVERY person as wering, we will each; or to EVERY person as overing, we will each; or to EVERY person as overing, we will each; or to EVERY person for a bottle of ANTI-HEE HOLDER TABLETS, which POSITIVELY cure head to the in Ten minutes. These prizes are absolutely face to introduce the gablets. Agents wanted on salary. Address LAMONT MED, Co., 38 MURTAY St., New York.

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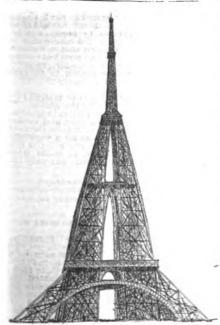
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THE WONDERFUL TOWER.

THE GREAT EXPOSITION.

THE GREAT EXPOSITION.

Probably the world has never seen in so short a time a metamorphosis so great as that which has befallen that once barren tract of land half oak-scrub, and half marsh, once far outside of Chicago, but now more than ten miles within the limits of the city, which is the site of the coming World's Columbian Fair.

Twenty-five years ago it was a long strip of sand ridge, covered with many scrubby oaks, and a few diminutive birches, which a hundred thousand years or more ago was the shore of Lake Michigan, the scrub flanked on either side by a wide marsh, the eastern one extending to the present shore of Lake Michigan.

When the great Park System of the City was located, this site was selected as a part of it and named Jackson Park. But being the one most remote from the City's centre, it was the last to be improved. So until within the last five years it remained a waste spot, tramped over only by vagrant cattle, the zealous naturalist, or the assiduous fisherman.

The changes wrought by the City Park Commissioners were marvelous, and only six months ago it was a beautiful spot having all the characteristics and endowments of a large City Park. The shore of the lake had been paved a hundred feet in width with Belgian blocks and extending into the lake far enough to prevent any encroachments from the waves. A large and ornamental Casino building with a fine dancing and concert floor had been erected near the shore. Piers had been constructed where half-hourly steamers landed crowds of excursionists from the City. Wide walks of asphalt or of macadam led in every direction. On the artificial lakes, filled with water-birds and tishes, were many pleasure boats, while here and there tennis grounds and ball fields added their charm to the festive scene.



A VENETIAN WATER-CRAFT.

Again the Magician's wand has waved, and, presto! all this scene of beauty has disappeared to give place to another, perhaps not more beautiful, but one of far more grandeur. With no cessation during the winter, more than four thousand workmen have been busily at work, night and day transmuting the quiet pastoral scene into a new Venice—a Venice which shall outvie in glory and grandeur the older Venice of the blue Adriatic.

The various buildings which are to stand upon the banks of the great Lagoon have all been described in previous issues of Comfort, so it is unnecessary to refer to them individually at this time.

Such progress has been made however, that it is the intention of the Directors of the Exposition to dedicate all the buildings next October! Within the last six weeks the grounds have been so changed that no one can doubt the extremely rapid progress of the work. In six weeks the entire group of structures has assumed definite shape; large additions have been made to those buildings that were then underway; while those that were only being



founded at that time have come up like mushrooms in the night.

This new Venice, which they name the "Grand
Court." is the main outlet of the Exposition.
Its three sides are flanked by five of the most
important buildings. The fourth side, that
which has been built across the end of the
Lagoon to separate it from Lake Michigan, will



PROPOSED AIR-SHIP.

not be the least interesting feature by any means. In the original design it was in the shape of a semi-circular bar, on which were raised thirteen columns surmounted with statues to represent the thirteen original States of the Union. This plan has now been changed, and there will be forty-four columns, with their forty-four sculptures, each representing one of the States. Behind the columns are to be forty-four pedestals and statues, with also a colossal figure of Columbia, the whole making a truly majestic entrance to the Grand Court.

making a truly majestic entrance to the Grand Court.

On the Grand Canal as well as elsewhere, the scene will be truly Cosmopolitan, for the Venetian Gondola, the Canadian Batteau, and the Indian Canoe will vie with each other in making the picture attractive. From the great Tower, three hundred feet or so higher than Eiffel's famous one, we may distinctly observe the new towering buildings of the city, and perhaps by the time the Exhibition opens there may be a line of air-ships making regular trips, at the same rate of fare as the cable-cars, between the great Tower and the Cupola of the building which we show here. Who knows?

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A PRIZE TO EVERY ONE!

The above Rebus names a common vegetable used for food by every family every day. WHAT IS IT? To the first person who sends a correct answer before June 30th, 1892, we will give \$150 CASH. To the second, \$100. To the third, \$50. To each of the next ten, a Solid Gold Watch (not plated but SOLID GOLD), with Genuine American movement. To each of the next twe, a \$50 Singer Improved High Arm Sewing Machine. To each of the next ten, a Handsome Slik Dress Pattern of 14 to 18 yards. You can choose between Black, Gray, Blue, Green, Brown or Wine Color, and we will send the color of your choice. To the next twenty, we will give to each one a Handsome Genuine Solid Nickel Silver Cased Watch, stem wind and set, with genuine American movement. Besides these prizes we will give to every person who sends an answer a beautiful copy of THE LIFE OF CHRIST and send it to you all charges prepaid by us. With your answer send 80 cents postage and advertising expenses. We make this unparalleled offer to introduce this splendid work of art, and to secure canvassers for it at every Postoffice. You can make an average of \$8 to \$10 a day with it if you can make honey as well as any one else. Address JAMES LEE, Publisher, Owings Bidg., Chicago, Ill.

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In old Madrid
Fm all right

stop to think how much the world owes to its popular songs? At a dinner party given in honor of her husband not long ago, Patti sang as only the diva can sing. Her rich, clear, voice, with consummate skill, set the sympathetic chords of emotion vibrating in the hearts of her listeners, and rapturous dious notes died away. Not from the grand old ards sublime, did she derive inspiration for that plaudits broke forth as the melodious notes died away. Not from the grand old masters, however, nor from the bards sublime, did she derive inspiration for that thrill of pleasure which she imparted to her coterie of friends. It was the familiar ditty of "Little Annie Rooney" which won for her such a signal triumph. The chief charm of a popular song is not due to the possibility that you may it, but to the sweet touches of sentiment and melody with which the composer has endured and that endure are as varied as the differing tastes of humanity. To meet the demand for a volume which caters to all tastes, the publisher of "HARLES D. BLAKE, who has so harmonized and raranged the selections that not only can they be sung with or without accompanity of the print to the sweet leaves. The Gipsey's Warning Girt. Becom-light of flome Loss that loves give the public a collection of instrumental arrangements left without accompanity of the words of every song removed, we would have a collection of instrumental arrangements left without changing a note. What can be more desirable that a publication which takes you from the sweet lays of the troubadours of old, down to our day and shove you.



who has so harmonized and arranged the selections that not only can they be sung with or without accompanism they be sung with or without accompanism they be sung with or without accompanism. They be sung with or without accompanism they we would have a collection of every song removed, we would have a collection of every song removed, we would have a collection of every song removed, we would have a collection of every song removed, we would have a collection of every song removed, we would have a collection of every song

"HARMONIZED MELODIES" is a collection of over 400 of the latest of the new, and best of the old songs and ballads. It contains hundreds of pieces never lampighter Farewell Fiddle and I If thou hast a Key I'll have your flat Irene Lorraine Irish Wedding Job Lot, A John Nott Kathleen Aroon Love's Proving Mary and John Mary of Argyle Meeting, The Minstrel's Song Morning bright Mother dear Mother's Dream Mother's Dream Mother's Song

before published in any but high-priced sheet music, at from 35 to 60 cents each; has 256 pages, each 10×12½ inches; is printed from new plates on fine book paper, well bound in colored covers. No other music books in the world are to be compared with it as regards quantity, quality, arrangement, and price. It surpasses them all. Look at the surround- ALL THE PARTS COMPLETE.

John Nat Athies Arone Mary and John Margarette Huming its of contents and bear in mind they contain All THE PARTS COMPLETE.

Mary and John Margarette Huming of Arytie Margarette Huming of Arytie Margarette Huming Argarette Humi Sent by mail. postage paid, to all parts of the United States, Canada, or Mexico, on receipt of 60 cents Including 4 mos. Trial Sub-SPECIAL OFFER.

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It is safe to say that every man, woman, and child is interested in lifelike photographs in general and some photographs in particular; and every one will be glad to read what the artist has to say who has "taken" more blushing brides, happy grooms, bouncing babies, and prominent people in every walk of life than any man living. Where is the man or women who has not admired the artistic dash and pose which characterize the work of the fiery little man, whose likeness we present herewith and who, topped with a red "Turkish Fez" that looks like a flowerpot, has for years held the position of the most prominent photographer. Napoleon Sarony was born in Que-bec, but has been an American since he was ten years old. He is an artist by birth, and his beau tiful studio at Union Square, New York, is visited by noted people from all parts of the world.

How did he gain his present distinction? Here's what he says to the Comfort Kadaker: "My what he says to the Comfort Kadaker: "My success is due to a thorough and constant study of figures and nothing but figures. Nobody succeeds now but the man who does one thing well. All this has helped." He swept his hand around the room, piled with beautiful crayon and charcoal studies from life by his own hand. "The successful photographer must be an artist, with an artist's eye for a fine pose or a beautiful line, an artist's eye for a fine pose or a beautiful line, an artist's appreciation of the beauties of the human figure. Every photograph must be a picture in the artistic sense, and the fundamental rules of drawing must also apply.

"Thus," and he rapidly assumed an attitude, "a man can stand like this without falling down, but for a photograph, never.

"a man can stand like this without falling down, but for a photograph, never.

"They say that figures cannot lie: neither can a photograph, yet we know how figures can be juggled with, and with my camera I can do the same. For instance, I could show you a photograph of myself in which I look at the least five feet ten, yet I am barely five feet.

"No, I do not excel because of my mechanical accessories. Others may have as good. But many are merely 'chemical photographers' and the soul of the profession is not there, the instinct is lacking which seizes the good points—and all sitters have some—and combines them into a graceful, and artistic, and a pleasing likeness."

Mr. Sarony's signature which is here reproduced shows the character of the man.

One of the most striking examples of the selfmade man to be found in this country to-day is the Honorable Leland Stanford. The story of his advancement from a poor farmer's boy to the exalted position of United States Senator, and one of the richest men in the world, sounds almost like romance. He was born in 1824 at Watervliet, N. Y., the present location of the great United States gun foundry. At the age of twenty he went to Albany to study law; and in 1822, during the height of the gold fever, he went to California, where shortly afterwards he married Miss Lathrop, to whose excellent qualities much of his success is no doubt due.

He was one of the promoters of the Central Pacific Railroad, and for many years the president of this great corporation. The satisfactory manner in which he filled the office of governor of California, to which he was elected some years ago, may be judged from the fact that he is at present a United States Senator from that State. In the seventies he started, at Menlo Park, in the Santa Clara Valley, an hour's ride from San Francisco,



the most extensive and successful trotting horse breeding farm in the world—Palo Alto. He is one of the best judges of horses in America, and originator of the kindergarten system of training trotters, by which colts are exercised in miniature race tracks of graded sizes, according to their ages race tracks of graded sizes, according to their ages—from the baby trotter a few months old, to the yearling. Of the world-beaters he has bred and developed, over one hundred Electioneers alone have public records better than 2.30. Among the more prominent of these are Sunol, Wild Flower, Manzanita, Palo Alto, Norlaine, and Bonita. The market value of some of these is over fifty thousand dollars each. It was due to the generosity of Governor Stanford that the photographer Muybridge

was enabled to make his costly and elaborate experiments in the field of instantaneous photography some years ago. For months these tests of photographing horses at full speed were successfully conducted at the Governor's country seat, at an expense, it is said, of over fifty thousand dollars.

The surpassing achievement of his life is the gift to the State of California of nearly thirty million dollars for the establishment and support of the Leland Stanford, Jr., University, at Palo Alto, as a memorial to his only child, a promising son who died in Italy a few years ago. Not only scientific and classical courses are pursued here, but telegraphy, book-keeping, typesetting, and scores of other useful pursuits, which in the founder's opinion may at some time keep a good Greek scholar from starving.

To show the grand possibilities of the glorious California climate, the Senator planted at Palo Alto specimens of every kind of tree to be found in the different parts of the world, and this grove forms one of the many interesting sights on the Pacific coast. Senator Stanford also has a beautiful city home on Knob Hill, San Francisco.

ful city home on Knob Hill, San Francisco.

Will the coming girl chew gum? Will she be able to cook a meal such as our mothers used to prepare for us? Will she believe in dress reform? Time alone can solve these questions. But one thing is settled. The coming girl will know something about typewriting. There are to-day in the United States alone over 200,000 women who carn their daily bread by typewriting and stenography. Fifteen years ago there were not a thousand in the whole world. In 1876 the writing machine was a curiosity, to be found only here and there in large cities. To-day thousands of people are employed in their manufacture and ascore of hading makers each turn out at least from ten to fifty a day; and the familiar cities of the typewriter is now heard not only here, there, and yonder, in this that, and the other corner of the business world, but everywhere—in the hotel, library, on the lightning express, at the family fireside, and on board the fleet ocean racers—its echoes greet the ear of the social visitor and wandering tourist. In other words, the pretty typewriter operator has come to stay, so has the one who is not handsome but who handsome does. In any position worth having beauty counts for little. The secret of the surest short cut to success lies in the fingers, and not in the face.



Any industrious woman with a willing heart and a level head, who has a fair common-school education can become a good typewriter. A few lessons from an experienced operator are desirable. Practice does the rest. Wages usually range from \$3 to \$10 per week according to the speed and accuracy of the operator and the nature of the work. Ladies combining a practical knowledge of stenography with typewriting are paid from \$5 to \$25 per week. Real experts occasionally get more than this latter figure, but real experts are exceedingly scarce, and so are employers who are willing to pay a man's wages to a woman even if she does more and better work.

she does more and better work.

Owing to the pleasant and profitable employment which typewriting and stenography afford, the study of these accomplishments has been taken up by thousands of women in all parts of the country, and an army of anxious candidates are constantly awaiting opportunities to fill places. As an instance of this may be mentioned that a New York house who recently advertised for a lady operator received over seven hundred applications in reply.

A good deal of nonsense has been written about the propriety of young women working in offices with men, and about the temptations associated with such positions. In answer to this it may be safely said that if it is proper for a woman to earn her living at all, it is as proper for her to earn in a business office as by mending socks. A for temptations, the woman who is not proof against the temptations she will meet in office life is hardly proof against those she will meet at a church sociable. A true woman will unquestionably exercise a restraining and refining influence upon her surroundings anywhere and everywhere, and it may as well be admitted that virtue maintained in the absence of temptation is too fragile for the nineteenth century.

The price of writing machines ranges all the way from one dollar to a hundred. The new Franklin which sells at sixty dollars is preferred by many expert operators because of its simplicity of construction, and other points of excellence. A sample of its work is here given:—

sample of its work is here given :-

"Punctuality is the

serious consequences of carelessness and blunders, 'A man is known by the letters he writes' in this age where you never see face to face ninetenths of the men you do business with. A blunder in his letter may subject him to great pecuniary loss, serious complications, and lawsnits. What frame of mind is he in then, if his typewriter's conception of her duties and responsibility is limited to mechanical drumming upon the machine without any care or judgment. In business, then, be absolutely reliable and accurate, use taste in your work, and cultivate tact.

"I advise my girls to read—read all they can—read anything, even about plumbing or gas-fitting, making yourself familiar with different combinations of words. Cultivate your observation. A liberal education and broad knowledge of common things and current events will save unnecessary and perhaps mortifying blunders every day.

"Dress as nicely as you can, not conspicuously."

necessary and perhaps mortifying blunders every day.

"Dress as nicely as you can, not conspicuously, but tastefully. Don't fail in small things. If it's your business to see to your employer's ink-stand, do it. If you pick up his pen, put it back where he can find it. There is no telling what you may be called on to do, once you get out in the world. One of my best pupils says, you don't know how I value the ability to do such a simple thing as to do up a parcel neatly and with despatch, or tie a good strong knot.

value the ability to do such a simple thing as to do up a parcel neatly and with despatch, or tie a good strong knot.

"Now there is another matter about which I feel it my duty to speak plainly; habits of personal cleanliness. I have it brought to my attention much too often, and have in mind a girl, well qualified, who has just lost her position from that cause. Two others I remember, one with beautifully formed hands, but sad to say, positively dirty, and another whose work, though well written and correctly spelled, bore here and there the faint imprint of thumb or finger.

"See that your hair is always neat and orderly. Have your dress, your desk, your work immaculate. When a girl fails in these points I greatly fear her mother is slack too. Not one in a hundred really expert girl typewriters is anything like pretty. If you have an intelligent face instead, congratulate yourself. The attitude and conduct of all around you depend greatly on your own.

"One more point is so curious that it must be mentioned. Their health, I may say invariably, improves greatly. This I attribute to regularity in living, punctual rising and eating, regular physical exercise going and coming from business in all weathers, active mental and physical employment during the day, and the consciousness of independence and self-support.

"O! There's a great deal more in typewriting than people have any idea of."



GEN. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER has long been known to the people as a soldier, lawyer, and politician, but since the publication of "Butler's Book," he may claim attention as an author. He was born in Deerfield, New Hampshire, Nov. 5, 1818. His boyhood was passed in the usual manner of the average country boy, his time being divided between learning the three R's, reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic, at the district school and doing chores on his father's farm. He earned his own living after he was eleven years old. He was studious and self-reliant, and early showed great independence of thought and action. His father and mother were good old-fashioned New England people, from whom he inherited great physical and mental strength. He was a conspicuous figure in the Civil War, and was intrusted with important missions by President Lincoln.

He was many years a member of Congress from

missions by President Lincoln.

He was many years a member of Congress from Massachusetts, of which State he was Governor in 1883, was candidate of people's party for president in 1884 and has been yery successful as a lawyer and politician, but looks upon his military career with the greatest pride. His ancestors were soldiers and he has in his house at Lowell the swords and spurs of four generations of his family. He has probably made more enemies and stronger friends, and been more maligned than any living American. He is reported to have said that he had been called every name under heaven but a fool. He is a man of the people, and has made his way from a poor boy to great renown. He is a large-hearted, generous man, and greatly loved in private life. He has had severe domestic afflictions, but is still in active practise of his profession.

THAT was a wise man

We may live without poetry, music, or art, We may live without conscience, and live without heart,

We may live without friends, we may live without books,

But civilized man can-

"The failure of many American newly married women to properly manage their household affairs creates much unhappiness in homes, and is a greater cause of discord in the family than one would think. It is my opinion that it would be, on the whole, a good thing if all girls had a certain compulsory training in these matters, no matter what station in life they expect to be called afterward to fill. It is not necessary to be rich to have properly cooked food.

"I do not use either utensils or materials not found or easily obtainable, by the masses. The point in which so many women fail is in ignorance of common household management and cookery. They don't know the reason of things, the action of cause and effect. I am not at all a vegetarian, but nervous people in this country eat too muchmeat. Very nervous persons, or those with a tendency toward insanity, should eat very little, indeed."



Chauncey M. Depewis another prominent self-made man in the best sense of the word. A country boy, with no other advantage than the training of good parents, he has become one of the foremost men of the times. Born in Peekskill, N. Y., in 1834, he was graduated from Yale College in 1856, studied law, and became counsel for Commodore Vanderbilt's railroad system. He early entered political life, and was man, and candidate for Lieutenant Governor of New York on the ticket with Horace Greeley in 1872. He was nominated minister to Japan, twice declined the United States senatorship from New York, and was named by the Republicans of that State as candidate for President in 1888. He is President of the Union League Club of New York, and officer and member of a large number of clubs and societies in literary, scientific, social and business life. As president of the New York Central Railroad Company, he directs and controls the employment of thousands of men. He is known to the people as a politician and after-dinner speaker, but he is a statesman and orator. His talents are as varied as his intellect is great. In any assemblage of men he is the chief figure, and his silvery speech graces every occasion. He resides with his charming family in New York City. every occasion. He res family in New York City.



Briefly and bluntly stated from a man's standpoint the "Dress Reform" favored by Mrs. Jenness-Miller consists in reducing the number of petiticoats and so forth worn by women of to-day, and wearing bifurcated (divided) garments in place of the skirts, and gowns which have so long been the "fashion." Viewed from the standpoint of common sense, the proposed new departure merits woman's serious consideration. Perhaps few may wish to carry the reform to the extremes urged by its fashionable champions, but the masses will doubtless derive both comfort and profit by adopting that happy medium which good, hard, practical common sense suggests.

"A woman's underclothes, coaplete and of good material, for three dollars and a half! Can she clothe herself for that amount of money and wear the old-fashioned garments?

If Mrs. Miller's new departure is successful it will largely be because to adopt it will be both cheap and sensible. "Costly your habit as your purse affords," expresses it exactly. You can spend as much or as little as you please, and with no loss of grace or comfort. In the new system there are four garments; in the style of our mothers about ten. We laugh at Washington Irving's "Knickerbocker," and his, Ten Broeck, the wearer of ten pairs of breeches, in the approved Dutch style of those days, but the modern woman of four petticoats is too common to excite mirth. Thinking people must admit that the reform is growing, when Mrs. Miller's quarterly magazine becomes a monthly, and grows in circulation like a weed. As for Mrs. Miller's quarterly magazine becomes a monthly, and grows in circulation like a weed. As for Mrs. Miller's quarterly magazine becomes a monthly, and grows in circulation like a weed. As for Mrs. Miller's quarterly magazine becomes a monthly, and grows in circulation like a weed. As for Mrs. Miller's quarterly magazine becomes a monthly, and grows in circulation like a weed. As for Mrs. Miller's quarterly magazine becomes a monthly, and grows in circulation like a weed. As for Mrs. Miller's



Every community has a man who is regarded by common consent as its social leader. He is floor-manager of dances, gets up theatrical performances, picnics, and other social events, and when the people wish to organize any entertainment he is the man who always leads off. Such a man to New York society is Ward McAllister. He was once a book-keeper, and is now the leader of the "Four Hundred." He is a shining example of the curious fact that society will pay anyone well who will provide for its amusement. Notwithstanding "Four Hundred." He is a shining example of the curious fact that society will pay anyone well who will provide for its amusement. Notwithstanding the howl of ridicule with which he has been assailed, there is something to be learned from him. He obtains a good living by the exercise of certain qualities, and he should not be condemned because he does not put those qualities to what the world would consider a more serious use. A while ago he published a book called "Society as I Have Found It?" and by "society" he means that part of the people of New York City who figure in what is called fashionable life. From it one obtains a true idea of its author, a fair idea of some of the manners and customs of modern society, but no idea of the people who compose that society, some of whom are among the noblest men and women of the land.

But listen to this from his book: "At each stage door a prominent citizen stood guard; the immense supper room was filled, no one else was admitted. As fifty would go out fifty, would come in. I remember, on my attempting to get in through one of these doors, stealthily, the vigilant eye of John Jacob Astor met mine. He bade me walt my turn, nothing could have been more successful or better done." Don't laugh! It's his business. Confess that he understands it. Our illustration in the Kodaked group represents Mr. McAllister as he appeared at the famous fancy dress ball given by Mrs. Astor some time ago.



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breathing heavily. Richard hurried to him. Then he saw a dreadful wound upon his fore he ad and that his gray hair was all red and matted with his blood. Richard with his blood. Richard with his blood. Richard had never looked upon a dying man before; but he knew instinctively that it was so. There could be no mistaking that dreadful rattle in the throat; then the utter inertness of the body could have but one meaning.

"Poor old man," Richard said as he looked."

SYNOPSIS.

Michael Bering starts one evening to call upon his brother Richard and nepher, Richard Jr. Just before resching the house sees Richard Jr. leave in great base, thinking there has been a family quarrel which is not intrequent, he returns home only to be summered shortly to go to the house of his brother who has been markered. Mary Irving, the ward of Richard Sr. is there mounting, he loss of her friend. She hates Michael and has very short conversation with him. Richard's will is opened, which discloses the fact that Tothael and Richard Jr. are to be joint executors. Richard Sr. and his son quarreled because woring man wants to marry Mary Irving, and on the evening of the murder they were alone in the forary, and Richard Sr. wants Mary to have other mitors in order to be able to select a husband; Richard Jr. leaves room in anger, and meets Mary in hall, he tells her his father's wishes, and she asks:

"Is he going to bring these men here, or must I seek them, these men I must choose among?" In time the detectives felt sure that Richard Jr. had emarked on a sailing vessel for San Francisco. Soon a verdict was rendered charging Richard Jr. with the rime. Michael Barling was very attentive to Mary Irving, he offers to reinvest her fortune. She often went to ride with Michael and found the drives very pleasant and thanks him for kindness to her.

"I am very glad to have been of some use to you," he said as he took his leave. ertness of the body could have but one meaning.

"Poor old man," Richard said as he looked about helpless in his surprise and astonishment. "What can this dreadful thing mean? Who has done it?"

He recovered himself slowly and then he hurried forward. He would go himself to call a doctor, although he knew so well that one could be of little use; but some one else must come to stay with that. As he rose he heard someone moving in the front of the house. He hastened toward the door, leading into the long hall, and, as he opened it, he saw a man run quickly from the parlor through the hall to the front door of the house. Richard had little time for reflection but he noticed even then that the man was without coat or waist-coat for the night was a warm one in the early spring.

then that the man was without coat or waistcoat for the night was a warm one in the early
spring.

Then his father's blood must have stirred in
his veins for he felt only anger and an intense
desire to catch and punish the rascal. Forgetting all else he ran quickly to the door, and
then pausing to look about him he soon discovered the white shoulders of the man perhaps half a block away. Richard ran as rapidly
as he could; but the man he chased was agile
and full of speed. Run as Richard would, past
the long open square, stumbling over curbstones and slipping on car tracks, he seemed
unable to gain an inch upon his game. With
mad rage in his heart he ran on block after
block to the astonishment and annoyance of
the few people in the dark and narrow streets.
Presently he had to cross a wide street brilliant
with the light from many stores, and here he
narrowly escaped detention for a policeman
suspicious of his baste made as if to stop him
but perhaps Richard's evident respectability
deterred him, for as he looked further at him
he stepped aside and Richard continued on.
Still he made no gain and the pursued man
ran on for perhaps a block or two farther when
he turned suddenly to the right into one of the
streets leading toward the river.

"Has he doubled on me?" Richard asked himself, and for a minute he was in despair. "Is
he going to escape me after all?" he thought to
himself; but as he turned the corner he could
distinguish the man still about half a block
away.

This was a street of small houses largely lived
in it would reave

series, he offers to reginest her fortune. She often the total with Michael and found the drives very setted to find with Michael and found the drives very than any very glad to have been of some use to you, he will be seen the seen of some use to you, he will be seen the seen of some use to you, he will be seen the seen of some use to you, he will be seen the seen of some use to you, he will be seen the seen of some use to you, he will be seen the seen of some use to you, he will be seen the seen of some seen of the bolisterous times he had of it with his father that quiet should be very welcome to him. He liked on the evenings of the seen that the could not be very welcome to him. He liked on the evening of the seen that the could lie there comprised to the seen of the pillows on his bed that he could lie there comprised to the seen of the pillows on his bed that he could lie there comprised to the seen of the pillows on his bed that he could lie there comprised to the seen of the pillows on his bed that he could lie there comprised to the seen of the pillows on his bed that he could lie there comprised to the seen of the pillows on his bed that he could have become great the well of the seen of t

pursuing disappeared through one of these doors; but Richard was near enough to know which one, and when he came to it he followed without hesitation. To his surprise upon the other side of it there was not the paved passageway he expected, but a flight of steep steps. Down these steps he stumbled into a dimly lighted cellar. About him there were many boxes and barrels. In the centre near the light stood the man he had pursued talking excitedly to a companion. Richard was about to fall upon him but in a minute he was conscious of a dull pain at the back of his head. Many colored lights seemed to dance before his eyes. The floor rose as if to strike him and then all was dark to him.

CHAPTER V.

THE PLIGHT OF MARY IRVING.

CHAPTER V.

THE PLIGHT OF MARY IRVING.

For many days for many weeks, indeed, matters went on very well with Michael Bering. He continued to be only duly attentive to Mary Irving. She tried hard to enjoy life as it was given her. She never in all her various talks with Michael referred to Richard. She never asked what progress was made in the search for him; she never even manifested ary desire to know whether the search was continued or not. Michael was encouraged to think that he had been mistaken. He began to believe that she had not cared for Richard as he had thought she had. She, poor girl, hid her wounds and made a brave show before the world. Sometimes when the thought that Richard might never return would assail her, she was frightened by the violence of her emotions; she feared even for her reason. It was a hard fight that Mary fought, with her doubts and her fears. Other people, she knew, had been called on to bear the death of dear friends or of husbands and had gone bravely through it all, and she, too, could bear the death of this one if she should have to; but the uncertainty of it all was a severe drain upon her.

As the days went on Michael became much bolder in his attentions, and it was not long before Mary realized that he was making love to her. When she first made this discovery she was very angry and indignant; then she laughed.

"Oh, Mr. Michael Bering," she said to herself, "you think that I cannot see all that is in your mind; but I can. And what harm can your love making do me? Go on if it amuses you."

And Michael did go on; but he did not find much amusement in it. It was not long before

sour love making do me? Go on if it amuses you."

And Michael did go on; but he did not find much amusement in it. It was not long before he knew that Mary understood his intentions, but he was puzzled by her reception of them. She listened placidly to his ardent, though indirect, speeches and chose to give a commonplace meaning, and to return a commonplace answer to whatever he might say. Michael seldom blundered, he was so cool and calculating; but now he felt hurried by the uncertainty concerning Richard and by the ever-present fear of his return. He had been cautious and patient and had made some progress he felt; now he would be bold and enterprising and see if he could not make much faster progress. If the worst should happen and she should repulse him he would find some way to show her is power.

"Perhaps not," he answered, "but your man-er, Mary. Why should my love move you to

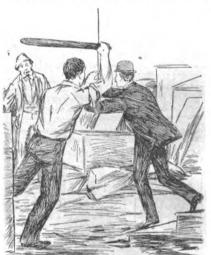
"Pernaps not," he answered, the your harmore, Mary. Why should my love move you to contempt?"

"Ah, Michael, you are mistaken. Your love would not so move me."

"My love would not! Then what does? Your manner is unmistakable."

"Come, Michael, let us forget all this. Let us be friends."

But Michael would not retreat even now when this chance was offered him. He was de-



Richard was about to fall upon him.

termined uow to force the fighting as he could.
"Mary," he said vehemently, "but think.
Consider as my wife your future, your position
would be secure. I can give you all that you
can ask for."

can ask for."

She looked at him in astonishment. She was on the point of saying to him that whatever would be given would be given by her but she restrained herself.

"Everything will be yours," Michael went on. "You will be happy. And you decline, why? Because of a girl's childish love for a man who can never claim her. Ah, you need not deny it. You were about to, I can see."

"I was about to deny nothing."

"Your loyalty is foolish. Richard may never return. If he does he can never dare to claim you."

is stended plated by the straint, more in the direct, speeches and chose to give a nomal direct, speeches and chose to give a nomal demyt. You were about to, I can see? "I was about to deny nothing." "I was about to deny nothing." "I was about to deny nothing." In the does he can never dare to claim you have the felt hurried by the uncertainty concerning Richard and by the ever-present fear of his return. He had been cautious and patient and had made some progress he felt. The price was should happen and she should repulse him he would find some way to show her his power. "Mary," he said bluntly one night, "I never thought I could so love anyone as I have learned to love you." He was a deeply wounded, but now retreat was impossible and Michael never let his feelings interfere with his plans. "No," he responded, "the lesson was a very eavy one. However, we reave one. Howeyou." I cannot." "I were than the lesson if I were you, I think. There are many things in this world that are not worth the knowing." "Are you serious, Michael Beringt" "Yes." "Yer hap snot—I do not know." "Perhaps not—I do not know." "Then I must tell you seriously I do not lovy you. I cannot." He was angry at Mary; "Then I must tell you seriously I do not lovy you. I cannot." Every the proposed to be the strain that had he given her time she would have come to regard him if not with affection, at least with friendliness enough the handly long the proposed to be the strain when the sum of injury seemed to her a great pretence, as indeed it was. But she would not quarrel; indeed, she was not angry or disposed to be. It was all too absurd.

"I was about to declaim you will find the have chosen to sak me calment, when the should have those in the first thing the strain that had he given her time she would have come to regard him if not with affection, at least with friendliness enough the first that the proposed to be. It was all too absurd.

"You have chosen to



these interviews which became necessarily more and more frequent. They humiliated her, and she was disposed to do almost without money, but she re-flected that after all the money was hers and she

ew angry.

'Michael," she said to him one day, "Michael, why it that you keep me so poor? Why is it that I must k you for every penny I need almost as I need it?"

'It has not been convenient to settle the estate," he

"It has not been convenient to settle the estate," he replied.
"Oh, indeed! But even if it has not, there surely can be no reason why I should not be given money enough for my needs."
"I thought I had given you enough for that."
"But I do not want it given me in the way you have given it. I do not choose to have you watch my expenditures so closely."
"Why not, pray?"
"Because-because I do not choose. I insist that you give me a good deal—that you make a large deposit for me with my bankers."
"You insist? You forget the great discretion given me by my brother's will. I choose to exercise it."
"Why do you choose to?"
Michael did not reply to this; but he said tenderly:
"Ah. Mary, it will all be so easy for you when you are my wife."
"When I am your wife? I thought you had given

are my wife."
"When I am your wife? I thought you had given that all up."
"No," he answered, "I shall never give up that-

"No," he answered, "I shall never give up that—never."
"Is this then the way you would win me?" she asked vehemently. "If I was inclined to care at all for you would this make me care more for you? Are you afraid that I shall be independent of you? Do you wish to show me that I am in your power?"
"Mary," he began; but she interrupted him.
"Nothing, Michael Bering, can make me think better of you; nothing can make me willing to marry you. As for your fancied power over me," she continued scornfully, "I care nothing for it."

Then as she left the room Michael smiled and said to himself quietly, "Well, my dear, I fancy I have given you something to think over. My power? I daresay you will realize that I have it when you come to think about it."

Michael became attentive again; that is, he was now often at the house and Mary could not look forward to a dinner or an evening except in his company. She could not complain of his behavior; but his very presence became hateful to her. She loathed him; she hated herself that she permitted



When Michael came home Mary had left the house

him to be near her; but for a long time it seemed to her that she had no choice. Then one evening when Michael arrived as usual for dinner she was not at home, the servants told him. He waited long, but she did not return. He sent messengers to such of her friends as he knew; but he felt that this was hopeless. He did not fear that she had met with any accident; he knew intuitively that she had gone to escape him.

[To be continued]

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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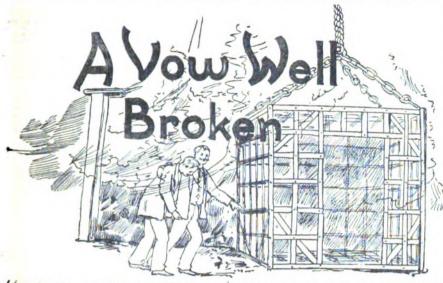
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The words were uttered in a low, sad voice that seemed like the wail of a broken heart. They came from a tall, powerfully built young man who stood by a rustic stile, on which a young girl was seated, within a mile of the mining village of Pittsborough, Pennsylvania. It was a soft, balmy afternoon in early June, and the birds in the trees were twittering away their songs full of rich melody, the sun was shining brightly, and all nature seemed as if in holiday attire, and in corresponding good humor. But dark cloud had suddenly fallen over the life of Joe Ashworth the young miner, and he saw no sunshine, heard no birds, and could not appreciate nature's beauteous garb at all that afternoon.

"Oh Joe, don't look at me life that."

"Oh Joe, don't look at me like that! I haven't ceased to like you Joe, I never shall, but, but—"
"But someone else has come between us, you mean, someone whom you love better than a fool like me?"
"Oh, pity me Joe, I can't help it, indeed I can't! I like you, just as I like my brother Ben, but indeed we must not think of marriage, I could not make you a good wife!"

R.M.F.

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must not think of marriage, I could not make you a good wife!"

"And why not, Millie? You and I have been courting for a year now. You have been the light and sunshine of my life, the one sweet vision that brightened my labor in the mines. We have rambled together in the spring, summer, fall and winter. I love you deeply, passionately, and you led me to believe that you returned my love in part. But in the last three weeks you have become a changed girl, you no longer care for me as you did, and I want to know why, I must know why!"

Millie Sherwood lifted her soft blue eyes streaming with tears to his, and clasped one of his brawny hands in hers tightly.



And why not Millie ?

"Forgive me, Joe," she cried, as the bitter tears welled forth unrestrained. "If I led you to believe that I loved you in that light, I was wrong. I always liked you, and found you bright and cheerful company. I found you unlike most of the rough miners—different in speech, gentlemanly in manner. I have been proud of your friendship because I admire your manly character."

"You are making the wound deeper now, Millie. I want to know from your own lips, right here, why you have changed towards me of late. There is a reason, and I want to know it now!"

The young man spoke fercely, bitterly, and the dark clouds of anger had settled upon his usually frank and open forehead. The girl sank exhausted into the rustic seat beside the stile.

It was unquestionably a hard experience for Joe Ashworth. He came to Pittsborough four years previously from the far West and almost immediately obtained employmnnt at the North Carroll mine. He was a steady, studious worker, and when his day's labors were over, instead of spending his spare time and money in the saloon, he occupied himself in reading and educating himself in mining and engineering matters. He rapidly became popular with his employers, and before he had been with them a year, was promoted to foreman engineer. He had often been invited to Mr. Sherwood's, the Superintendants house, and while there met his daughter Millie, with whom he promptly fell in love. To do him instice it must be stated that from Millie's manner of treating him, always accepting him as an escort to parties, or in long rambles through the woods, he really thought she looked favorably on his suit. She meant no harm, poor girl. She had found Ashworth a very entertaining fellow, and it is possible that she right at one time have had the thought of accepting him as an escort to parties, or in long rambles through the woods, he really thought she looked favorably on his suit. She meant no harm, poor girl. She had found Ashworth a very entertaining fellow, and it is possible that she right at one time

mentioned between them until that morning, when Joe had precipitated matters by asking her to be his wife.

Millie had dried her eyes, and was looking up at Joe Ashworth meekly as she spoke.

"I am heart broken, Joe, to think this should happen, but I must tell you the whole truth. Before I met you at all there was a half understood engagement between me and George Newbold. He went away to Pittsburgh to study surveying, and only came back last week. That is why I have refused to go out with you since, until this afternoon, and I would not have come now only I did not want you to feel hurt by my continued refusals. Oh Joe, Joe, for God's sake don't look like that at me! I would have told you before had it been necessary!"

The human countenance had disappeared from Joe Ashworth. There was the face of a demon there instead as he clenched his fists and hissed through his teeth.

"Had it been necessary! Of course it was not! You no doubt thought it was fine fun for a girl to play with a heart like mine while engaged to another, and tell me, when I had given my heart and soul to you, that you would have discouraged me had it been necessary! I have loved you with the love of a fervid and sincers heart. You have seen it, you have known it all along, and now you tell me you were engaged over two years, and to George Newbold too, the man who has been insulting me persistently these last few days."

"Insulting you, Joe?"

"Aye, insulting me, and now I know the reason, but by the heavens above no man on earth shall rob me of the one love of my lifetime without paying dearly for his action! And I swear here, solemnly, in the eight of heaven, before the sun goes down I will have George Newbold's life!"

Millie started up in dread, and caught him by the

Millie started up in dread, and caught him by the arm.

"Oh Joe, don't talk like that, you'll drive me crazy! George is not to blame—if anyone, it is I. But I never thought you had learned to care for me like this. Oh if I only had told you before!"

Joe Ashworth was about to reply, when suddenly the ground beneath them trembled, and there came from away down the valley the report of a loud explosion. The faces of both assumed a look of alarm and Joe said huskliy:

"There's trouble in one of the mines, Millie, I guess I had better go as they might need my assistance."

"I'll go too," replied Millie in a seared kind of way.

"Hadn't we better run, Joe?"

"Yes, but don't tirey ourself. I don't like to leave you alone, but if you feel like getting out of breath just stop and sit down. I hope it may prove nothing serious, but, though off duty, you know I ought to be there in an emergency."

"What is the matter?" asked Joe of the first persons they met.
"Explosion o' fire damp in the old Eight Lode, Mr. Ashworth," replied an old and crippled man, who himself had lost an arm and leg in an explosion,
"The Eight Lode! why there's nobody down there," exclaimed Joe. "The mine hasn't been opened for more than eight months!"
"But two men went down this morning, sir, for she first time since the closing, Mr. Newbold and Tom Dixon, in order to survey the different leads!"
"Mr. Newbold!"
Before she had half repeated the words, Millie was

Dixon, in order to survey the different leads!"

"Mr. Newbold!"

Before she had half repeated the words, Millie was flying along in the direction of Eight Lode, whose mouth was only a furlong distant. It was all Joe could do to keep up with her now, she ran like a hare, turning neither to the right nor left.

At the mouth of the pit there was a great crowd of people, but they gave way before Joe and Millie.

"How is it?" asked Ashworth, of the two men in charge of the cage.

"Mr. Dixon's body has just been brought up, dead," replied one. "We could find no trace of Mr. Newbold and the smoke down there is suffocating, he must be dead too."

"Won't you go down again and try to find him," asked Millie piteously. "He may have fainted or be only injured. Please try again, and you will be well rewarded for your trouble!"

"No use, Miss," replied the miner shaking his head. "Only a madman would venture down there until the atmosphere is clearer. At the bottom is certain death!"

"Oh my God!" she moaned in agony, "is there no help for him? Marked had."

certain death!"

"Oh my God!" she moaned in agony, "is there no help for him? Must he die like that without assistance? Is there not one among you strong men who would try to save a comrade at the point of death? Rubens, Jones, Marston will you not at least go down and try to find his body?"

"We're sorry, Miss, of course," replied Bill Marston, "but then you know, Miss, us fellows have got families of our own, and we can't afford to run no risks on their account, whatever we feel like doing on our own."

There came a stoney look of despair over Millie's blanched face as Marston spoke. Her eyes wan-There came a stoney look of despair over Millie's blanched face as Marston spoke. Her eyes wandered round that group of men until it rested on the face of Joe Ashworth. He had been fighting with himself for the last minute—the jealous lover with the upright man, and that look from Millie decided the fight—the upright man had won!

Without a second's hesitation he jumped into the care and told the men to lower him into the pit. It was at this juncture that Mr. Sherwood came up.

"Where are you going Joe?" he asked in amazement.

"To try and save Newbold sir, I think I know the mine better than any man around, and if it is possible to save his life, why I'll do it—for your daughter's sake!"

ble to save his life, why I'll do it—for your daughter's sake!"

Before anyone could stop him, before Millie could breathe a word of thanks he was gone—gone down into the dark depths of the smoking pit, whose bottom was said to be certain death! Fully five hundred feet of rope was paid out before the windlass stopped and then the spectators knew that at any rate the cage had reached the bottom, and from a few moments vibration of the rope it was evident that Joe was getting out.

One hundred pairs of eyes watched that rope intently, eager to catch the slightest sign from below, but no gaze was riveted so intently, no heart alternated so wildly between hope and despair as that of Millie Sherwood. Minutes passed, which seemed like hours to the watchers, but still no signal came from the bottom of the pit. Superintendent Sherwood stood by his daughter and tried to console her.

"If there's any earthly chance at all of saving George, that brave fellow Ashworth will succeed," he said. "He knows every nook and corner down three better than men who have worked in the mine three times as long as he has. Haul away there quick! the rope is moving?"



He made them confess their love for each other.

A cheer burst from the crowd as the two men commenced to turn the cranks and draw up the cage. On what a dreadful suspense those hundred seconds were! What conflicting thoughts passed through the minds of the waiting crowd! Was Joe coming back alone, or was he bringing Newbold with him, and, if so, was the latter dead or alive? Mille's white face was the furthest over the fron rail, peering down into the darkness and straining her eyes to catch sight of the cage. Suddenly it came in view, but there was no sign of life therein—two lifeless bodies lay at the bottom of it. The cheer that was raised died away as the poor fellows, both smoke begrimed and blackened,

BROWN'S EXTRACT CO.. Proprietors, New Haven, Conn.

were lifted out tenderly and laid on the grass where the two village doctors were waiting.

Joe Ashworth opened his eyes after drawing a deep breath of fresh air and called, "Millie!" She turned from the other figure, Newbold's, and Joe whispered as he pressed her hand:

"I told you I would take his life! I have taken it now from the jaws of death, and I give it back to you! He is all right. I found him in the gallery where the air was pretty cool. He'll revive bye and bye!"

"God bless you, Joe, for your noble sacrifice!" murmured Millie, as she pressed Ashforth's hand in her own and wept tears of joy.

The doctors agreed that Newbold would soon revive with the aid of tonies, and when Joe had recovered himself sufficiently he was lifted on the shoulders of strong men and carried, amid great cheering, around the village. But none of his admirers knew the exteat of his sacrifice, or the weary heart load of bitterness he carried behind a smiling exterior.

Newbold never recovered sufficiently to attend to his daties, but, on the contrary, incipient consumption, which, it seems, he inherited, was accelerated by his accellent, and in six months carried him off. But when he learned from Millie's own lips of the magnanimous conduct, of Ashworth, he sent for him, and humbly begged his pardon for the insults he had offered him. And before he died, he made both Miliciand Joe confess their love for each other in his presence, and exacted a promise that they would marry within three months of his death.

That was five years ago, and now Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ashworth live in great style in Pittsburgh and neither have found marriage a failure.

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A BIG OFFER SOME AND A SOME AND A

Do you want a Delicious Summer Drink? THEN TRY BROWN'S





DEAR COUSINS:

We have had a good many miscellaneous recipes lately, and I propose that this month we devote the column entirely to cake. I have a good many cake recipes on hand, and you will have a chance to compare them, and pick out the best. Next time we must begin on summer fruits, canning, preserving, etc. How quickly the time comes around! it does not seem possible that all those cans of good things which you put up last year have been emptied; but the rows of empty jars on the pantry shelves tell the story. I hope that this will be as good a year for fruit as 1891 was, and that sugar will be as cheap.

Our first recipe is for

COCOANUT COOKIES.
2 cups sugar, 1 cup butter, 2 eggs, 1-2 a cocoauut, grated, flour; roll thin and bake.

JELLY ROLL.

3 eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1 teaspoon cream tartar,
1-2 teaspoon soda, 1 cup flour; pour it thin into
a bakiug pan, bake slowly; spread jelly over it
and roll up; wrap it in a cloth.

a bakiug pan, dake slowy, and roll up; wrap it in a cloth.

WEDDING CAKE.

1 lb. butter, 1 lb. sugar, 10 eggs, 1 lb. flour, 3 fbs. currants, 2 lbs. stoned raisins, 1-2 lb. citron, I nutmeg, mace and cinnamon. Rub the butter and sugar together; when light, add the yolks, then the whites of the eggs, which must be beaten separately. Then put in nearly all the flour, keeping out enough to dust the raisins, cut the citron in slices, (put it in as you put the eake in the pan.) After mixing the fruit in the cake, grease a pan and line it with buttered paper; put the cake in and bake in a rather slow oven, as it burns easily. When done, take it out of the pan, paper and all. The next day put it in a tin cake-box and cover tightly.

Mrs. NELLIE JOCK.

Mrs. Nellie Jock.
AUNT ELIZA CAKE.
11-2 cup sugar, 2 cups flour, 1-2 cup butter,
1-2 cup sweet milk, 2 teaspoons baking powder,
2 eggs.

sponge cake.

2 tumblers flour, 1 tumbler sugar, 4 eggs, 1-2
teaspoon cream tartar, soda size of a pea, butter
size of an egg.

Mrs. M. V. Garmon.

CHOCOLATB LAYER CAKE.

Whites of 3 eggs, 2 cups sugar, 1 cup sweet milk, 2 large tablespoons butter, 3 cups flour, 2 heaping teaspoons baking powder. Bake in 3 layers and spread chocolate icing between.

Along with cake would naturally go a recipe for

BOILED ICING.

11-2 cups sugar, 2 tablespoons water; let it boil on the back of the stove until waxy or stringy, then pour it into the whites of 2 eggs, well beaten.

OHIGH CAPP.

well beaten.

3 eggs, beaten separately, 1 cup flour, 1 cup sugar, 2 teaspoons baking powder; when well mixed, add 2 tablespoons boiling water.

STRIPED CAKE.

WHITE PART.—1-2 cup butter, 1 cup white sugar, 1-2 cup sweet milk, whites of 3 eggs beaten stiff, 2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking

powder.

DARK PART.—1 cup brown sugar, 1 tablespoon
molasses, 1-2 cup butter, 1-2 cup sour milk, 1-2
teaspoon soda, 2 cups flour, 1 tablespoon each
of cinnamon and allspice.

GINGER CAKES.

Into 1 quart of molasses stir 3 even table spoons of soda and 11-2 of ginger; stir well, then add 1 pint of buttermilk and 1 pint of lard. Make into a soft dough, roll thin and bake quick.

GUNCAKE

CUP CAKE.

Whites of 3 eggs, 1 cup white sugar, 1-3 cup of butter, 1 cup sweet milk, 2 teaspoons baking powder. Use whites of 2 eggs for frosting.

SOFT GINGERBREAD.

1 cup molasses, 2 tablespoons butter, stir in four as thick as you can in the molasses and butter; I tablespoon ginger, I teaspoon soda, 1 cup boiling water on soda; eat while warm.

MARBLE CAKE.

WHITE PART.—Whites of 4 eggs, 1-2 cup butter, 1 cup white sugar, 1 cup sweet milk, 2 teaspoons baking powder, flour to thicken.

DARK PART.—Yolks of 4 eggs, 1-2 cup molasses, 1-2 cup cold water, 1 teaspoon allspice, 1 teaspoon soda, flour to thicken.

COFFEE CAKE.

1 egg, 1 cup brown sugar, 1-2 cup molasses,
1-2 cup shortening, 1-2 cup raisins, 1-2 cup
coffee, 1 teaspoon each of cinnamon, allspice
and cloves, 1 teaspoon soda, flour to thicken.
ETHEL POLMANTEER, Watervliet, Mich.

POUND CAKE.

11-2 cups sugar, 1 cup butter, 10 eggs, 1-2 teaspoon baking powder. Rubthe flour and butter to a cream, beat eggs and sugar together, and add the baking powder.

MAR BELLEMANTEER, Watervillet, Mich.

MAY BUTTERY.

GINGER SNAPS.

cup molasses, 1-2 cup lard, 1 teaspoon soda, t and ginger to taste; mix hard and bake salt and quickly.

DOLLY VARDEN CAKE.

1 egg, 1 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon butter, 1 teanumilk or 3-4 cup water (not both), 2 cups eup milk or 3-4 cup water (not both), 2 cups four, 3 teaspoons baking powder, 1-2a grated autmeg. Bake 2 layers of this mixture, leaving enough in the dish for another layer; to this add 1 tablespoon molasses, 1 tablespoon flour, 1 teaspoon each of cloves, cinnamon and allspice, and 1-2 cup of chopped raisins or currants.

Mrs. H. M. STEVERS, Hillman, Mich.

I have lost the name of the sender of the two following recipes but return thanks for them just the same, and am sorry that I cannot give credit where credit is due.

redit where credit is due.

FIG CAKE.

WHITE PART.—1 cup sugar, whites of 6 eggs, 1-2 cup butter, 1-2 cup sweet milk, 1 1-2 cups flour, 3 teaspoons baking powder.

YELLOW PART.—1 cup sugar, yolks of 6 eggs, 1-2 cup butter, 1-2 cup sweet milk, 1 1-2 cups flour, 3 teaspoons baking powder, 24 figs cut thin and put on the layers after they are in the pans, before baking. Put together with icing.

STEEL CAKE.

1 cup butter, 2 cups sugar, 1 egg, 1 cup sweet milk, flour enough to mix. Frost with the white of 1 egg and cinnamon.

FRUIT CAKE.

1 cup butter, 1 cup brown sugar, 1 cup molasses, 1 cup sweet milk, 3 cups flour, 4 eggs, 1 1-2 teaspoons cream tartar, 1 teaspoon soda, 2 lbs.

stoned raisins, 1 nutmeg. Will keep 4 to 6

snowball CAKE.

1 cup sugar, 1-2 cup butter, 1 cup sweet mill
2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, white
of 3 eggs.

of 3 eggs.

BRIDGEPORT CAKE.

2 cups sugar, 1 cup butter, 3 1-2 cups flour, 1 cup sweet milk, 2 cups currants, 1-2 lb. citron, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1 lemon.

Crackers may not come exactly under the head of cake, but a recipe for them has been called for, so we will have these.

HOMEMADE CRACKERS.

1 quart flour, 1 cup lard, 2 teaspoons baking powder. Mix thoroughly, adding 2 teaspoons salt, with cold water or sweet milk to a stiff dough. Roll and cut into cracker form; prick each side with a fork.

MARY E. HUDGEN.

MOLASSES CAKE.

1 cup molasses, 4 tablespoons shortening, 1 teaspoon ginger, mix hard with flour; then take 1 teaspoon soda dissolved in 1 cup boiling water, stir 10 minutes and bake in a moderate oven.

Mrs. O. Wescott, Cazenovia, N. Y.

NEW YORK COOKIES.

1 cup sugar, 1 egg, 1 cup shortening, flavo with vanilla, add flour enough to roll; bake in a hot oven.

Cousin Lizzie.

a hot oven.

CAKE WITHOUT EGGS.

1 cup sweet milk, 1 cup sugar, 2 tablespoons butter, 2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder.

LUCELIA H.

PLAIN PRUIT CAKE. PLAIN FRUIT CAKE.

1 cup sugar, 1 cup molasses, 1 tablespoon each
of cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves, 1 cup chopped
raisins, 1 cup chopped dried apples, 1 cup sweet
milk, 2 cups flour, 1-2 cup butter, 2 eggs, 2 teaspoons baking powder.

A. I. B.

COOKIES.

2-3 cup melted butter and lard, 1 egg, 2 cups sugar, 1-2 cup sour milk, 1 teaspoon soda, flour enough to roll well.

LAYER CAKE.

1 egg, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup sweet milk, i-2 teaspoon soda in milk, 3 tablespoons melted butter, 2 cups flour, 1 teaspoon cream tartar in flour. Bake in 2 layers, and when cold put on the following frosting. the following frosting:

CARAMEL FROSTING.

1 cup sugar, 1-2 cup sweet milk, boil 7 minutes, stirring all the time. Spread on the cake. Have 2 squares of chocolate melted (by putting them in a saucer and setting them over the teakettle); spread this over the white frosting and put the layers together.

put the layers togetner.

SPONGE CAKE.

3 eggs, 2-3 cup sugar, 1-2 cup water, 1-2 teaspoon sods, 1 teaspoon cream tartar in 11-2 cups flour. Flavor with lemon.

NELLIE ADAMS.

NELLIE ADAMS.

FEATHER CAKE.

1 egg, 1 cup sour milk, 1 cup sugar, 2 large spoons butter, 2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons cream tartar, 1 teaspoon soda, flavor to taste.

Mrs. R. D. N.

I think you must all be sweet enough by this time, so we will have no more recipes this month. Many thanks to all who have contributed.

Cousin Ceres, (Care of Comfort.)

MONEY PLENTY AT LAST.

MONEY PLENTY AT LAST.

Dear Readers:—I went West determined to make money fast; invested in real estate to be safe, got in debt, gave a mortgage, times hard, crops failed, property sold for taxes and interest. I left Kansas and started East, met an agent plating jewelry and tableware who claimed to make \$10 per day. I secured the address of H. F. Delno & Co., of Columbus, Ohio, and ordered a \$5 plating machine. I made \$23 the first week plating and sold two platers, making \$8 profit. Many readers may be benefited by this short description of three years of tribulation.

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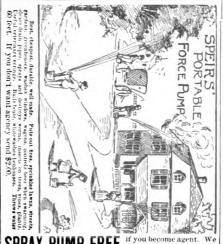
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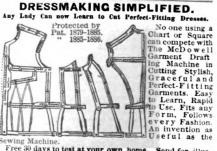


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WHAT a lovely morning, Queen Bee! It is too pleasant to stay indoors, and we will have the meeting out on the porch, among the flowers and birds. Tell Cousin Drone to bring out all the low chairs and rockers, and some rugs, and to hang the hammock to that apple-tree close by. I see the Bees coming already, another chair, Cousin, and one of those little tables; we are going to have a full meeting. Good morning, good morning! I am glad to see you all. You must have had a very pleasant trip this beautiful day. Make yourselves comfortable on the stoop, while I fetch the box of needles and hooks; try this willow chair, Mrs. Packard, you will find it very easy. Girls, if there are not seats enough, I can have more brought out.

"We are all right, don't trouble about us," says one merry maiden; "we can sit on the edge of the stoop. Girls, now what have you brought this time? lots of pretty things, I hope. For my part, I did not have a thing in this line that was new, and so I would not bring anything."

"Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "Well, it is hard to find anything very new in "It is a to stay in the proper to stay in the property in the proper

that was new, and so't so anything very new in thing."
"Well, it is hard to find anything very new in the way of fancy work," remarks Clara Wohl of Fleetwood, Pa. "I have an edging pattern which I thought some of you might like to try, so I put that in my bag as the best contribution I could make to the meeting. It is called POINT LACE.

POINT LACE.

POINT LACE.

1st row.—Make a ch of 10 sts, 3 dc in 5th st of ch, ch 1, 3 dc in same (this forms a sh), 1 dc in last st of ch.

2d row.—Ch 6, sh in sh, ch 2, 1 dc in ch of 4 sts.
3d row.—Ch 5, 1 dc in top of 1st dc, ch 2, sh in sh, ch 3, 1 dc in 4th st of ch.

4th row.—Ch 6, sh in sh, ch 2, 1 dc in last dc of sh, ch 2, 1 dc in top of next dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st of ch.

of ch.

Sth row.—Ch 5, 1 dc in top of 1st dc, 2 dc in ch
of 2, 1 dc in dc, 2 dc in ch of 2, 1 dc in dc, ch 2, sh
in sh, ch 3, 1 dc in 4th st of ch.

Sth row.—Ch 6, sh in sh, ch 2, 1 dc in last dc of
sh, ch 2, 1 dc in next dc, 6 dc in top of next dc,
ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st of ch.
7th row.—Ch 5, 1 dc in 1st dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 4th dc,
ch 2, 1 dc in last dc, ch 2, 1 dc on dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 1st
dc of shell, ch 2, sh in sh, ch 3, 1 dc in 4th st of ch.

Before we go any farther I have a letter that I want to read from a Sister Bee who is unable to be present; and I would like to have some of the others answer it if possible.

"Will some of the Sisters please send me some samples of tatting, also directions for making mats with coffee sacks and rags.

Mrs. Nellie Rogers, Hot Springs, Ark."

"Requests are contagious," says Miss H. C. S., "that reminds me that I want to ask if some one will bring the directions for making a pop-corn tidy? I have wanted that for a long time."

"Yes, and I would like to have directions for knitting or crocheting a baby's hood," chimes in Mrs. Chas. McLean of Trimble, Colo. "I have come a long way this morning to ask for that."

"Not any farther than I have come, sister Bees," says a Bee from Los Angeles, Calif. "I want to ask the other Bees if they will please tell me about making some pretty inexpensive picture frames. I am a young wife and house-keeper, and am very anxious to have a cosy, cheerful little home; and I think it is very nice to make things at home for one's self. I have received much benefit from the Comport in regard to housekeeping and fancy-work."
"Always glad to hear a word in praise of our

"Always glad to hear a word in praise of our favorite Comfort. There, I almost forgot,

and thread, tack the rings together before slipping off the stick. Cut from stiff paper 8 circles the size of a small-sized baking-powder can, and an equal number of circles of sheet wadding the same size; sew them together in pairs. Over each one sew the pink zephyr, sewing it round and round. Make 8 rosettes in this way. Now take the green zephyr, cast on any number of stitches, and knit it all up, using two needles. Wash it in strong alum water, dry quickly, and ravel out. Cut a piece of cardboard the size of the bottom of the lamp and cover with dark material; sew the 8 rosettes around the edge at equal distances; sew the green between the rosettes, letting it fall down 3 inches all round, and come within 2 inches of the centre. inches of the centre.

the green between the rosettes, letting it fall down 3 inches all round, and come within 2 inches of the centre.

Is it possible that here is our friend Mrs. Kupferle from Chicago! I supposed that you would be so busy getting ready for the World's Fair that you could not stop to think of fancy work. Glad to see you; you must be sure to call in to see Aunt Minerva before you go, for I know she wants to talk over the Cousins' Reunion with you, and make some plans.

"Yes, I will surely drop into her sanctum for a short call, although my time is limited today. I just want to tell you all about such a lovely piece of work that I saw the other day. In fact, I made one like it myself, and every one admired it. It may be used for a photo or handkerchief case. Take a piece of common muslin 14 inches long and 9 inches wide, allow for seams. Line it with sheet wadding, then take scraps of silk and satin in pale shades and cover the muslin on one side; work in fancy stitches and designs. Line with a pretty shade of silk or soft velvet, sew together and turn. Finish with gilt bullion cord, put a bow on one corner, and a yard of ribbon for ties."

Must you leave us so soon? Well, thank you for this short visit, and the help you have given us. Now I will tell the Bees about some pretty little things I saw the other day at the house of a friend who is noted for her taste in fancy work. One was such a simple and easily made little creation that I resolved at once to make some like it for next Christmas. It was made of the small white pill-boxes used by druggists, those that pull open like a bureau drawer; six of them were fastened together in two tiers of three each, and tied with two quite wide lavender ribbons. On the end of each box was sewed a button or a hook-and-eye, to serve as an indication of its contents, and also as a handle to the tiny drawer. Altogether, it was one of the prettiest and most useful things that I have seen in a long time.

This same friend is thinking about being married "one of these fine days"; so

was one of the prettiest and most useful things that I have seen in a long time.

This same friend is thinking about being married "one of these fine days"; so of course she has her collection of souvenir spoons, and I want to tell you how she keeps them. For each half dozen spoons there is a separate case, made of a piece of chamois skin 12 by 9 inches. The edges are pinked, and across the narrow way of the case are fastened two strips of the chamois, pinked on each edge, an inch apart. These strips are caught down at regular intervals with bright siik, to make little divisions for the spoons. The outside of the case is decorated with gold paint in circles, half-moons, spider-webs, etc., and inside the name of the city from which each spoon came is painted above and below the straps. The case is tied by a tiny gold cord with tassels. The chamois keeps the spoons bright, and you have no idea how much prettier they look when exhibited in this dainty case.

Another article which will give my friend great pleasure in her new home is her

FRIENDSHIP TABLE COVER.

This has a centre of fine linen in a delicate.

FRIENDSHIP TABLE COVER.

This has a centre of fine linen in a delicate cream color, and a border of canvas-weave linen. On this border her friends embroider their monograms or initials, in harmonious colors.

colors.

Good-bye, sister Bees! Try to bring something new next time if you can.

Contributions solicited for this department from the friends of Compost. Descriptions of new and novel fancy work especially desired. Please send a sample of edging with directions for the same. No addresses can be furnished of the contributors to this column, so it will be useless for anyone to write for them. Samples will be loaned for 5c. in stamps. Address,

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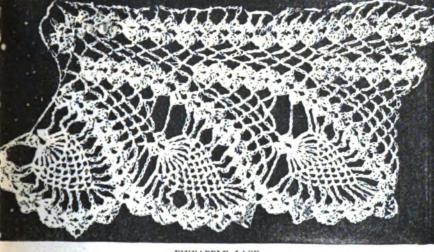


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PINEAPPLE LACE.

8th row.—Ch 6, sh in sh, *ch 2, 1 dc between ch of 2, *repeat from *to *4 times, ch 2, 5 dc with ch of 2 between in top ch of 5, *ch 2, 1 dc between ch of 2 * repeat 4 times. Here you must join to preceding scallop if you have more than one once.

9th row.—Ch 3, loosely fasten on top of 1 dc, ch 3, fasten in top of 2 dc, proceed this way round the scallop till at the last dc in ch of 2, ch 3, sh in sh, ch 3, 1 dc in 4th st of ch.

10th row.—Ch 6, sh in sh, ch 2, 1 dc in ch of 3. Repeat from 3d row.

"Year, practic convin Clara" says Note Col.

"Very pretty, cousin Clara," says Kate Caf-fry of Hillsborough, Mo.; "and now will you try a pattern that I like very much, a variety of Pineapple Lace which I think is different from anything you have had.

PINEAPPLE LACE.

Terms used:—Sh, shell; sc, single crochet; ch, chain; tr, treble; 1 tr, long treble; st, stitch; dc, double crochet.

Make a ch of 36 sts.

1st row.—Sh (3 tr, ch 1, 3 tr) in 6th st of foundation ch, ch 6, sh in 24th st, ch 5, 1 dc in 28th st. ch 3, sh in 32d st, 1 tr in 36th, ch 4, turn, the dcs are all under the loops of 3 or 5 chs and only 1 sh, in each sh of the following rows.

2d row.—Sh, 1 ch, 1 dc under 1st 3 ch, ch 5, 1 dc under 5 ch, 5 ch, sh, 5 ch, 10 extra long trs in next sh, 5 ch, sh, 3 ch, turn.

3d row.—Sh, 5 ch, *1 dc, 1st long tr, 3 ch, 1 dc, *repeat 8 times, 5 ch, sh, 5 ch, 1 dc, 5 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, sh, 1 ch, 1 tr, ch 4, turn.

4th row.—Sh, 1 ch, *1 dc, 5 ch, *repeat 3 times, sh, ch 4, 1 dc, *3 ch, 1 dc, *repeat 7 times, 4 ch, sh, 3 ch, turn.

5th row.—Sh, 4 ch, 1 dc, *3 ch, 1 dc, repeat from *6 times, 4 ch, sh, 5 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, sh in 2d loop of 5 ch, 3 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, sh, ch 1, tr 1, ch 4, turn.

Sth row.—Sh, 1 ch, 1 dc, ch, 5 d, 1 dc, 1 ch, sh, 1 str.

Sth row.—Sh, 1 ch, 1 dc, ch, 5 d, 1 dc, 1 ch, sh, 1 str.

Sth row.—Sh, 1 ch, 1 dc, ch, 5 d, 1 dc, 1 ch, sh, 1 str.

Sth row.—Sh, 1 ch, 1 dc, ch, 5 d, 1 dc, 1 ch, sh, 1 str.

loop of 5 ch, 3 ch, 1 dc, 6 ch, 5 d, 1 dc, 1 ch, sh, 1 tch, 1 dc, 5 ch, 1 dc, 5 ch, sh, ch 4, 1 dc, *c h 3, 1 dc, repeat *5 times, 4 ch, sh, 3 ch, turn.

7th row.—Sh, 4 ch, 1 dc, *3 ch, 1 dc, *repeat 4 times, 4 ch, sh, 5 ch, 1 dc, \$5 ch, 1 dc, \$3 ch, sh, 3 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, sh, 3 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, sh, 1 ch, 1 tr, ch 4 turn.

8th row.—Sh, 1 ch, 1 tr, ch 4 turn.

8th row.—Sh, 1 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc, 1 ch, sh, 1 ch, *1 dc, 5 ch, repeat from *3 times, sh, 4 ch, 1 dc, *3 ch, 1 dc, repeat from *3 times, 4 ch, sh, 3 ch, turn.

Aunt Minerva wanted me to ask the Bees if any of you could tell her where to procure a tatting shuttle. Please write her directly, if you can give the information, and she will be very grateful."

"Will you give the knitters a chance to-day?' asks Ella H. "I will tell them how to make a very pretty tidy stripe if they would like. It is called

OAK LEAF WITH ACCENS

OAK LEAF WITH ACORNS.

Cast on 36 stitches, knit across plain.

1st row.—* k 3, tto, n, * k 1, tto, k 3, n, p 1, n, k
tto, n, tto, k 1, n, p 1, n, k 1, tto, n, tto, k 3, tto,

1, * k 2, tto, n, *. The 5 stitches between stars beginning and end of row are always knit

at beginning and end of row are always knit the same.

3d row.—K1, p all but the seam sts, which k plain. K means knit plain, N narrow, Tto thread over needle, P purl or seam.

"While you have the needles in your hands, just try this insertion, sister Bees, and then I will tell the girls how to make a pretty lampmat," says Hattie Marine of Columbus, Ky.

ROSE LEAF INSERTION.

Cast on 29 sts and knit across plain.

1st row.—S 1, k 3, o, n, k 1, o, k 1, n, p 1, n, k 1,

twice, p 1, o, k 1, n, p 1, n, k 1, o, k 3, o, n, k 2.

2d row.—K 4, o, n, p 4, k 1, p 3, k 1, p 3, k 1, p 6,

n, k 2. n, k 2.

, n, k 2. 3d row.—S 1, k 3, o, n, k 1, o, k 1, n, p 1, n, k 1, 1, k 1, n, p 1, n, k 1, o, k 3, o, n, k 2. 4th row.—K 4, o, n, p 4, k 1, p 2, k 1, p 2, k 1, p

th row.—K 1, 0, n, k 1, 0, k 1, 0, n, p 1, n, p, n, p, 1, n, 0, k 1, 0, k 2, 0, n, k 2, 6th row.—K 4, 0, n, p 5, k 1, p 1, k 1, p 1, k 2, p, 0, n, k 2.

7th row.—S 1, k 3, 0, n, k 1, 0, k 3, 0, k 3 tog, p, k 3 tog, 0, k 3, 0, d 3, 0, n, k 2, 8th row.—K 4, 0, n, p 7, k 1, p 9, 0, n, k 2, 9th row.—S 1, k 3, 0, n, k 1, 0, k 5, 0, k 3 tog, 0, k 5, 0, k 3, 0, n, k 2.

10th row.—K 4, 0, n, p 9, 0, n, k 2. Repeat from 10th row.—K 4, 0, n, p 9, 0, n, k 2. n, k 2.

st row. Now for the lamp-mat.

times, 4 ch, sh, 5 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, sh, 3 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, sh, 1 ch, 1 tr, ch 44 sturn.

8th row.—Sh, 1 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc, 1 ch, sh, 1 ch, **1 dc, 5 ch, repeat from **3 times, sh, 4 ch, 1 dc, **3 ch, 1 dc, repeat from **3 times, 4 ch, sh, 3 ch, turn.

9th row.—Sh, 4 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc, 4 dc, 4 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc, 4 dc, 5 ch, 4 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc, 4 dc, 5 ch, 1 dc, 1 ch, 1 ch



COMMODORE VANDERBILT.

The Millionaires of New York.

THE VANDERBILTS.

Few families outside of royalty have ever been accorded the widespread publicity that has failen to the lot of the Vanderbilts ever since the Old Commodore became a leading figure in Wall St. Every movement is faithfully chronicled in the daily press as if it concerned some reigning potentate. And why not? For money is a mightier king than the Emperor; more powerful than the Czar. His subjects dwell not in one section of the world alone, but in all sections, and prince and pauper, monarch and merchant alike yield him homage.

They are popularily supposed to be the richest family in America—and some say in the world. For all practical purposes that statement is true enough, though I presume the Standard Oil Magnates and the Astors in this country, and the Rothchilds in Europe, are probably their equals, though the properties of the Vanderbilts have been peculiarly fortunate in The Vanderbilts have been peculiarly fortunate in

Astors in this country, and the Rothchilds in Europe, are probably their equals, though the properties of the Vanderbilts have vastly improved during the last decade.

The Vanderbilts have been peculiarly fortunate in having as chief advisor in their public movements a man like Chauncey Depew. He is popular with the masses and adored by the classes; few men have filled the public eyes o satisfactorily as Mr. Depew. When the late Wm. H. Vanderbilt gave utterance to his celebrated remark, "The public be d-d!" he learned by a bitter and sad experience that his verbal communications to the outside world could better be made through the lips of his popular Secretary, than through himself or any other member of the family. It was a long time before the public forgot the affront put upon it by this insulting remark, and at one time public opinion was so thoroughly aroused, that a determined and almost successful attempt was made to have the State repeal the many valuable franchises granted from time to time to the Vanderbilt road. It was a trying time for the blundering farmer from Staten Island, and if the Old Commodore had not allowed his son to starve on a miserable farm until he was well up in years the son would never have made such a deplorable mistake. Even now, though the event is many years old, and its author in the grave, the remark is often quoted and always provokes a feeling of resentment. That was the time when Depew had the hardest work of his life. He managed to placate the angry legislators at Albany, and convinced many of the people that Mr. Vanderbilt had been wrongly reported.

The present family is the third generation. The first money in this direction resulted from a small row boat which the Commodore rowed himself on the shores of Staten Island where he had a farm. Even after he was many times a millionaire he kept his son the late Wm. H. Vanderbilt on the same old farm, out of which he was able to earn by dint of strictest economy about \$800 per year. Such was the life and in fact was many ti



THE PUBLIC THOROUGHLY AROUSED.

respect they pattern after the Astors which is on the same plan pursued in England where the eldest son succeeds to the estate and titles while the other boys get what the will provides and no more. But the eldest son succeeds in spite of will or testament and the property thus entailed passes from father to son till the line of succession becomes extinct in which case the second son succeeds.

The present reigning member of the family, Cornelius Vanderbilt, is Chairman of the New York Central Board and Chauncey Depew is President. The presidency however is merely a position of nominal power, though the office with perquisites is worth about \$100,000 per annum. In Depew's case he represents the Vanderbilt interest and being a widely popular man is able to do much toward keeping the Vanderbilts in a proper light before the public. His wonderbil diplomacy and unfailing good humor keeps the properties. Ornelius Vanderbilt is still a man man, probably 38 years of age, and is well liked the community in general. He is something of a his through the maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the some thing of a his maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the some thing of a his maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the some thing of a his maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the some thing of a his maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the some thing of a his maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the some thing of a his maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the some thing of a his maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the some thing of a his maintenance of reading-rooms and clubs in the some thing of a source of the some thing of a source of the source of th

Tennesse. He is worth probably one hundred and fifty millions of dollars. Personally he is tail, quite good looking, and wears little "side boards" that add much to his youthfulness. He is proving a wonderfully good man for the trusts imposed upon him and is worthy of his father's estimate. The other boys not feeling so closely the ties of business spend much of their time abroad and Wm. K. Vanderbilt has a steam yacht that takes him all over the world.

There is no question but the family is very much improved over the first generation. The long existing feud between the Astors and the Vanderbilts as to, social supremacy was settled some three years ago by a great fancy dress ball given by the Vanderbilts. All New York society was agog to know whether the Astors would attend and thus set the seal of their approval on their long time rivals. The Four Hundred were in a fever of anxiety for it was known that the ball would either create a new set or be accepted by the old. The "old families" who made their money by selling bad rum to the Indians and cheating them in trading could not forget nor forgive the modest farm on Staten Island which alas exists even to-day. But the battle was fought and won. The Astors were there and the feud was ended. The Vanderbilts were finally admitted and are now of the inner circle.

It is a pleasure to add that in their domestic life no breath of scandal has ever touched the younger Vanderbilts and in their home circle there are no more devoted husbands and fathers. Each have large families and they are carefully trained by the parents themselves. Many deeds of charity are done secretly by this family of which the world knows nothing and the Sloane maternity on hospital for poor mothers is supported by their bounty, and the many buildings owned and fitted by them for the use of railroad employees are doing work of the best kind among a class who sorely need it. Cornelius Vanderbilt is quite religiously inclined and in his life time will doubtless accomplish much good.

The world i



VANDERBILTS FIRST BOAT.

There may be something more yet to write about the Vanderbilt charities. They are not bad people to have in charge of so much money. They spend lavishly, build great houses everywhere, and keep their money constantly in circulation among the people who need it most.

HASTINGS.

Men Will Smoke

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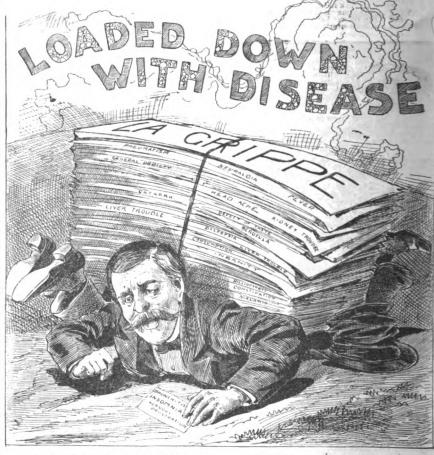
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In Writing us be sure to give Name, Post Office, County, and State correctly in every letter, no matter how often you write.

A limited number of Advertisements ac-

A limited number of Advertisements accepted. Rates furnished on application

QUITE RIGHT TOO.

The preacher visited a school
To catechise the boys,
And point out every golden rule
Which Christian man employs
To earn the good will of his kind,
To prosper in the land.
And happiness and comfort find
Almost at his command.

aimost at his command.
"Tis not without a struggle boys
That man obtains his ease,
Nor without striving he enjoys
Those worldly goods which please,
And who, that sees what he has gained
Can tell what he has lost?
Who, seeing comfort he's obtained
Knows what that comfort cost?"

And then the small boy of the class
Raised up his hand with speed,
"Please sir," he said, "don't further pass—
I wish to speak indeed.
Your question may much thought arouse
But I can answer here,
For we get "Comfort" at our house
For 25 cents a year!"

J. S.



Is truly an elegant affair. The setting is composed of Gold and Silver wire twisted, making an attractive contrast, while the beautiful Aloskan Diamond, nestling snugly in the coils shoots a radiance we can but too poorly portret here. Very pretty for lady or gent.

Given free to any one sending 2 yearly subscriptions
COMPORT at 25 cents each. If you are not already
subscriber you can count as one.
MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



As we are making extensive improvements in Com-FORT and want every one to see the next two numbers, we will send this Bird Warbler free to all sending 6 cents for a two months trial subscription. Address MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

Comfortable Corsets for Summer.



ALMOST BEYOND BELIEF

An Old Resident of Fall River, Who Was Given Up as Dead, Astonishes His Friends.

HE IS VERY MUCH ALIVE, AND TELLS ALL ABOUT HIS RESCUE.

STARTLING FACTS.

From the Fall River "News," May 6,1892.

That Thomas Bostock, of this city, is still alive will That Thomas Bostock, of this city, is still alive will be news to a good many people in and about Fall River, where he has been widely known for many years; and that he is not only actually alive, but very well and happy, will be still greater news. The startling facts concerning his marvelous rescue are given in the following personal letter to the editor. His escape from death seems almost like a miracle, and we would like to know if any one else has ever met with a similar experience. Mr. Bostock was for more than 10 years engaged in the furniture business here, and his communication will be read with great interest.

here, and his communication will be read with great interest.

Fall River, Mass., May 4, 1892.

To the Editor:—As "dead men tell no tales," my writing this letter right here in Fall River, where I am daily attending to my business, will, I hope, prove to the press and public that I am not dead as reported, but very much alive. It is true that just one year ago I stood on the brink of the grave in a foreign land, never expecting to see my friends again; but it is equally true that to-day I am here in the flesh, a free, well and happy man. I write this letter with feelings of gratitude, that my friends in and around Fall River, where I have lived over seventeen years, may learn of my experience, and how I was afived only those who can picture to themselves the awful agony of a man who daily feels and hears that he has at best but a few weeks more to live, can form any idea of what I passed through.

When I sailed for England one year ago, it was with feelings of a drowning man who grasps at a straw; for I was a physical wreck, and had been told by no less than six physicians, including the well known Dr. Guerin, that I was incurable, and that the only thing that could prolong my life for even a brief period was a foreign trip.

I had grown steadily worse ever since April, 1889, when I was first taken sick.

I had grown steadily worse ever since April, 1889, when I was first taken sick. I was so racked with bodily pains that when I ventured out I used to fall down in the streets, and my friends now tell me that they daily expected to see a notice of my death in the newspapers. I went from doctor to doctor, and tried everything that was suggested, without obtaining relief. Every physician I went to had a different theory as to what alled me, and a new course of treatment to offer. Heart trouble, kidney disease, stomach disorders, and sciatic rheumatism were among the allments for which they treated me; and after I had taken their medicines and had become almost help-less, I was, as I have said, advised to go to England, as that alone could prolong my life. I therefore went to Yorkshire, where I consulted two eminent physicians, who, after treating me without benefit, told me frankly that my case was hopeless, and that if I wished to die among my friends I should hasten back to America.

wished to die among my friends i should hasten back to America.

On my return I was prevailed upon by Mr. John Silinn, general agent of the Vermont Life Insurance Company, to try something which he said had lifted him from a severe sickness. I took his advice, although I felt that nothing could benefit me or bring me back to health. The article he recommended is a Nerve Food called Oxien, and Mr. Slinn procured some for me from the discoverers, The Giant Oxie Company, in Augusta, Maine. Its use brought me relief from the first, and day by day I grew steadily stronger, until, after taking it regularly some weeks, I was a well man. During this time I took no other medicine, and was under no other treatment of any kind, and can truthfully say that Oxien is not only a wonderful Food for the Nerves, as claimed by its proprietors, but that it is the one medicine which snatched me from the verge of the grave, after all others failed, and after eight physicians had treated me in vain and had given up my case as hopelees and incurable. There is nobody living to-day who feels more grateful for anything than I do for the remedy named. I have recommended it to various friends and acquaintances, and in every case it has worked wonders. By publishing the foregoing facts you will confer a favor upon me, and, I feel sure, a benefit upon sufferers.

THOMAS BOSTOCK,
24 Pearl St., Fall River, Mass. 24 Pearl St., Fall River, Mass.

TO THE PUBLIC.

While the above cure sounds, as the "News" says. like a miracle, thousands of just such cures are being effected all over the country by Oxien. Nothing like it has ever been known, and nothing like Oxien has ever been discovered. It is the only true food for the nerves, blood and brain. It lifts weary, hopeless sufferers from beds of sickness, not for a day or a week, but permanently, by giving them new nerve force, new strength, new vigor, new life. It does not stimulate. It does not excite. But it imparts vital force and the fire of youth to the human system. Where doctors and medicines utterly fail and all other rem-edies prove useless, Oxien cures and cures perma-It cures people who have been bedridden for years and who have been given up to die. This wonderful food for the nerves is proclaimed by all who It brings new life in every case, and in order to prove this fact to you we will send free, postpaid, samples of Oxien, if you will send your address at once; also show you how to help your fellow men and make a large sum of money in an honorable business.

In view of its startling success a lot of swindling concerns have sprung up who try to profit by this wonderful discovery at the expense of the owners and the public. Sufferers should not allow themselves to be misled. Remember the trade-mark word

as also the cepyrighted trade-mark design of our giant, as here shown



must appear on every box of the genuine FOOD FOR

THIS IS WHAT HE WROTE US.

S IS WHAT HE No. 7 Warren St., Fall River, Mass., July 25th, 1891.

No. 7 Warren St., Fall River, Mass.,
July 25th, 1891.
About a month ago I obtained from you a \$1.00 hox of your Oxien wafers, and although I have not taken them quite regularly, I have tried them sufficient to derive more bencheial results from their use than from any other medicine I ever tried. When I commenced taking them I was afflicted with what the medical profession call tobacco heart, and I had this so bad that my pulse intermitted at times every other beat, causing me great distress and no little alarm. In addition to this I was troubled with all the phases of indigestion. My stomach was so out of tone that most everything I ate distressed me. My back was so weak that the least exertion caused me pain, and I was frequently unable to do anything through effects of lumbago and sciatica. I have not quite finished my first box of Oxien, but my heart beats as strong and as regular as it did 20 years ago. I can sit down and eat a good square meal of any kind of food without feeling the slightest distress after it, and I haven't got an ache or a pain about my body, and I honestly believe that I am indebted to Oxien for my improved condition. Yours truly,

AN OPEN CHALLENGE. \$10,000,00. We guarantee OXIEN to be absolutely free from Morphine, Opium, Mercury, Strychnine, and any and all other opiates, poisons, or narcotics, and we will pay ten thou-

sand dollars cash for proof to the contrary. THE GIANT OXIE CO., Sole Proprietors.

DON'T BE HUMBUGGED!

Highly Important. Since the discovery of Oxien was made public, and the news of ts marvellous powers to give New Life to helpless, hopeless sufferers began to be carried from tongue to tongue, there have appeared here, there, and yonder, numerous vile imitations of this Wonderful Food for the Nerves. Absolutely worthless and even dangerous mixtures have been concocted by a set of human frauds, who, like the counterfeiters of our country's currency, seek to palm off their spurious stuff for the genuine goods, and thus not only rob honest worth of its just dues, but also swindle unsuspecting people. Too ignorant themselves to originate anything valuable, and too unscrupulous to earn a living by honest means, these pirates seek to trade on the reputation of honorable men by adopting high-sounding names for their nostrums, or by imitationg our Trade-Marks and Copyrights, as well as the form and style of our advertisements and packages, in such manner as to mislead the

Some of these impostors have already been brought to justice; and while we shall promptly prosecute every further infringement of our rights that may come to our notice, we wish to impress upon all that the reason why OXIEN cures after all else has failed is, because Oxien IS UNLIKE ANYTHING ELSE EVER DISCOVERED. It is original with us-original in conception, original in composition, and original in effects. It is exclusively owned and manufactured by us, and to attempt to imitate Oxien successfully is like attempting to imitate the sun that shines in the

For the benefit of sufferers, and in the interest of fair dealing, we respectfully ask the public to advise us of any attempt at fraud or deception in relation to OxIEN. Any such information will be gratefully received and held strictly confidential by us.

We have no connection whatever with any other company or firm in this city, or elsewhere, Oxien was, and still is, the first and only true Food for the Nerves.

Beware of Frauds. THE GIANT OXIE CO. Sole Proprietors, Augusta, Me.

99 OF INSTRUCTIONS FREE



BEAUTIFUL PROFITABLE

RENSINGTON STAMPING was never more popular than to-day. Many ladies making high wages working at home, odd hours. Besides beautifying your own home you can make 15c. every 5 minutes you stamp for others. If you only devote 3 hours a day to it, the snug little sum of \$25 and over comes in, as the prices range from \$5c. to \$8 for each pattern you stamp. An inventive genius has lately represented the pattern you stamp. An inventive genius has lately shandrised machinery for turning out these patterns by the handrised machinery for turning out these patterns by the handre so the state of the state of \$60 and \$60 are seen inches which was a state of \$60 are seen inches wide. Nearly as good as many \$6c. and \$60 are seen inches wide. Nearly as good as many \$6c. and \$60 are seen inches wide. Nearly as good as many \$6c. and \$60 are seen inches wide. Nearly as good as many \$6c. and \$60 are seen inches wide. Nearly as good as many \$6c. and \$60 are seen inches wide. Nearly 180 of the largest variety of potterns, each from about a foot long down to single alphabet letters. We cannot describe them, not having room to go into detail, but in order to introduce our magazine. "Comfort," with its greatly improved departments, we will send the above outfit. Free, postpaid, to all three months' (12c.) subscribers, and also send a new book or Manual of Instruction in the art of stamping. Just printed. It describes how to make all colors of powder, and instructs you in every manner of working the patterns. If you enclose 12c. at once, we make you a present of above. MORESE & CO., Box, 1111Augusta, Mahne.



New Bull's-Eye Dark Lantern.

A Child's Love for a Doll.

HAS OFTEN BREN COMMENTED ON .- READ ABOUT THE NEW STYLE DOLLS



Modern invention is always making startling improve-ments and the latest s always making startling improvements and the latest thing just brought out is for the young people who live away from the large cities. We have just secured sale of a new kind of dolls that are absolutely indestructible, and we show you in this cut here how they look; they are 18 inches tall and made of elegant colored goods. In getting this doll up we have overcome the great trouble of weight which has made such a cost in the past when shipping by maff or express. These dolls are so constructed that you filt them with cotton, hair or sawdust, sewing them up after receiving; it takes but a few minutes to do this and you save at least one dollar and get a pretty substantial doll for almost nothing. They will last for years and be a joy forever to any miss who desires her committee the doll one free with a 6 months and of 2 yearly 25c. sub-

a handsone dollie as nice as her own sweet self. To introduce our goods Morse & Co. will send one doll for 13c. or 2 for 25c., or give one free with a 6 months' 25c. subscription, or for a club of 2 yearly 25c. subscribers will deliver one free.

THE HAMMOCK CHAIR.



N elegant easy chair for house or lawn, wood or dale; also combines the features of a hammock and of a swing, it is for Summer and Winter use also. The most economical arrangement ever invented, as having an adjustable lazy back and so arranged that it can all be folded up into a very small space when not in use. It is just what EvERY BODY wants to have, whether house-keepers or boarders, men, women or children, and creatively a most comfortable affair, having all ropes, hooks, &c. adjusted to any desired cond. It is splendid to

certainly a most c om fortable affair, having all ropes, books, &c. attached, it car be put up and taken down or adjusted to any desired height, from 3 to 7 feet in a second. It is splendid to put up in the door or on the plazza for an invalid. The children are just crazy to use it for a swing. We offer this brand-new article as a PREMIUM for a club of eight yearly subscribers at 26c. each. We will sell it for 62c. if 20c. extra is forwarded for postage or express.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine

A Beautiful and Fashionable Necklace for 25 Cents:



No article of adornment so en-hances the beauty of the wearer as Pearls, and the Gradu-ated Pearl Bead Necklace is one of the most richly beautiful and charming articles of adornment in the market.

her list of ornaments. The pocullar opalescent lustre, the soft
plow of pearls worth thousands
of Jollars apiece, are reproduced
with exactness, and nothing
else makes such a charming
necklace, adapted to be worn
with any costume.

Price of this beautiful necklace only 25 cents, or two for
MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

PARAGON ASSORTED

STEEL PENS.

24 Fine Steel Pens for 10 Cents!



A GOOD pen is an absolute necessity now-a-days, but like many useful articles it wears out after a white, and has to be replaced with another one. A box of our Paragon Steel Pens is just the thing to have in the house, and will be found very handy whenever a fresh pen is fund of two dozen.

A GOOD pen

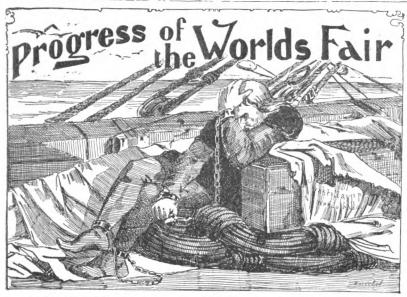
wanted. Each box contains an assortment of two dozen pens, among which are pens of various sizes, with blunt or nie uibs, and sakpeted to any style of writing. There will be found in each box commercial pens, school pens, bank pens, stub pens, ladles 'fine pens, etc., all manufestured in the best possible manner, and tempered to a nicety. They have the reputation of being the best pens ever made, will last a long time, and are warranted to suit all classes of writers, from the school-boy up to the banker and lady correspondent.

Though the pens are of such first-class character, we purchased them at such a low price, that we now offer a box of two dozen assorted pens for 10 cents; three boxes for 25 cents; one dozen boxes, 90 cents; by mail, prepaid. This is about one-third the price asked by storekeepers for the same make of pens.

pens.

Agents can make from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per day selling these pens to private families, offices, and stores, as they will readily sell for 15 cents per box.

MODER 4. CO. Augusta, Maine. MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



WESTWARD HO!

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE STAFF OF "COM-FORT" MAKE A VISIT TO THE WORLD'S FAIR AND THE GREAT WEST. WHAT OUR ARTISTS SAW AND WHAT OUR CORRESPONDENTS FOUND TO TALK ABOUT.

(Special correspondence of "Comfort.")

(Special correspondence of "Comfort.")

N the Great "Chicago Limited" train at a speed of almost a mile a minute, the special correspondents and artists of Comfort. The contract of almost a mile a minute, the special correspondents and artists of Comfort were borne swiftly out of the Grand Central Depot in New York, and in a few minutes were skirting the beautiful waters of the Hudson River, and were soon speeding up the magnificent valley of the Mohawk. Every foot of the ground seemed alive with memories of the Revolution, for hereabouts many of the most interesting incidents of the struggle took place. Tarrytown is only twenty-five miles from New York, and it was in Tarrytown that Major Andre was captured. The deep significance of this event may not occur to you at present, but it was one of those critical occurrences that meant far more than we can imagine. Benedict Arnold had arranged to betray West Point, the key to the American situation, into the hands of the British. Had the conspiracy been successful it is doubtful if the Revolution would have succeeded. In all probability Washington would have been taken prisoner, executed as a traitor, and his army destroyed. Major Arnold was on his way to New York, the British headquarters, with the necessary papers, when he was captured in this quaint old town. A beautiful monument marks the spot where Arnold was captured, and not far from the spot stands Sunnyside, the home of Washington Irving.

In fact all through this neighborhood are the homes of celebrated men. Jay Gould, the little Wizard of Wall Street has his summer home near by. John D. Rockfeller, the Standard Oii millionaire, is a neighbor of Mr. Gould, so also is Cyrus W. Field, Chauncey M. Depew, Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher, David Dudley Field, James J. Treanor, The Blue Stone King and VictorMorrisini, whose daughter created such a sensation some years ago by marrying her coachman. Morrisini is Jay Gould's partner,

years ago by marrying her coachman. Morrisini is Jay Gould's partner, and the two men sent Niagara Falls New York's (Clumbus Monun

from the awful roar of its descending waters, and the seething torrents that surround the basin of the Falls. A small steamboat called the "Maid of the Mist" takes passengers well up under the Falls, and the benefit of the descending wall of water can thus be obtained. A descent into the "Cave of the Winds" is not attended without difficulty, but it fully compensates for the trouble.

About noon our train comes to the Detroit River, and as we are on the Canadian side we connect with Detroit by means of huge iron ferry transports. The city of Detroit is one of the finest cities we have, and is noted for its fine public buildings, its beautiful private streets and its magnigeent architecture.

At nine P.M. sharp, exactly on time to the minute, we roll into the Illinois Central Depot at Chicago. Our trip from New York over the Michigan Central has been one of remarkable comfort. The meals were first class, the cars all that could be desired in the way of luxurious fittings, and with its vestibuled corridors one had actually a continuous walk from end to end of the train without discomfort. It is not at all unlikely that the Michigan Central, running as it does in such close connection with the celebrated New York Central and Hudson River Road, will enjoy wonderful patronage during the World's Fair.

CHICAGO.

CHICAGO.

The most marvel-ous of all in our own country and the south-

termined if he was a capable fellow in any way to make the best of a bad bargain and give him start. But it was a poor selection. The man turned out to be so wretchedly stupid that no hope was to be found in that direction, so he was companied to annul a job as a street car driver, but it is commonly reported that he is well paid for not interfering with his wife who, it is believed, is now with her parents.

But the train speeds on, and soon we are at the southern gates of the Highlands, and the scenery becomes wonderfully impressive and sublime in its grandeur.

All along on both banks of the Hudson, and for miles on both sides rise the undulating blue hills which make the valley of the Hudson one of the garden spots on earth.

But we cannot linger on the Hudson forever. All along no both banks of the Hudson one of the garden spots on earth.

But we cannot linger on the Hudson forever. All along the marking the first speeds on the Hudson forever. All along the marking the first speeds on the Hudson forever. All along the marking the first speeds on the Hudson forever. All along the marking the first speeds on the Hudson forever. All along the marking the first speeds on the Hudson forever. All along the marking the first speeds on the Hudson forever. All along the marking the first speeds on the Hudson forever. All along the first speeds on the Hudson forever. All along the marking the first speeds on the Hudson forever. All along the marking the first speeds on the first speeds of the first speeds of the first speeds of the first speeds

in the distance. In the morning we awake to find ourselves listening to the roar of the awful Niagara.

Niagara Falls is perhaps the most magnificent natural panorama the World can boast of. It is familiar from engravings to most of the readers of Comfort, yet its real majesty comes

World has ever seen.

One of the features that were particularly pleasing to us is the fact that the published drawings of the buildings as shown in Comfort were exactly as seen on the grounds.

Nothing was exaggerated in the least. The

poulldings are just as large and the park just as pretty as we have represented. Of course the buildings are not finished, but enough was seen to give a clear idea of what is coming. The people of Chicago estimate that the Fair will bring to that city over three hundred million dollars, quite a comfortable sum even for a town the size of Chicago.

But time pressed, so after bidding Director General Davis good-bye and thanking him on behalf of the million readers of Comport for courtesies extended we once more boarded the train and were soon in the country at the head of navigation on the Mississippi River, and the Twin Cities of the West, St. Paul and Minneapolis, lay at our feet.

Here is the home of the great wheat markets of the country. Nearly every housewife in the land is familiar with the brands of family flour which emanates from Minneapolis, where are perhaps the finest flouring mills in the world. Several of them stand on the river edge directly below the town and the largest of them is in full view of the train as it crosses below the Falls of St. Anthony. These falls furnished power in the early days, but steam and electricity have since taken their place. Hunting, shooting and fishing can be had in great abundance a short distance from either of the Twin Cities, and an afternoon spent with a half-breed Indian in a canoe is a delightful experience.

All around the Twin Cities the country is dotted with a series of genel lakes the town

abundance a short distance from either of the Twin Cities, and an afternoon spent with a half-breed Indian in a canoe is a delightful experience.

All around the Twin Cities the country is dotted with a series of small lakes that are simply beautiful and afford excellent fishing. It is the wonderful clearness of the water that makes the waters of Minnesota famous, and one standing on the edge of a lake can see the bottom with scarcely any difficulty. A singular thing about the Northwest is the overwhelming number of Scandinavians, Norwegians, etc., with which the population is made up. They say in Minneapolis that if you ask the average citizen where Minneapolis originally came from he will respond "Norway." But in addition to these people who make good citizens, there are also a large number of people who came from Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire and other Eastern States. So there is quite a c os mopolita n growth, taking it all in

ing it all in all.

But all The Main Building of the (olumbian Fair

> to an end, and with it Comfort's trip through the West. We had so many cousins all scattered through that wonder ful country that we felt we must go and see it. Such an opportunity And see it. Such a n opportunity may never occur a g a i n. The West is wonderful. It is so big and strong and great. There seems room out there for millions upon millions. We wish that grand country well in all

millions. We wish that grand country well in all its undertakings.

The latest news regarding the World's Fair is in the nature of the importance accorded to the children in connection with the great celebration. As now proposed there will be nearly one hundred and fifty thousand children to participate in singing the National Anthem and other appropriate music. In New York a statue to Columbus has recently been erected which our artist shows in his sketch, and taking it altogether there will doubtless be a celebration that, will not only reflect credit on Chicago but on the whole country as well.

So we returned in due time over the plains to Detroit, and once more across the lower strip of Canada back to Niagara Falls and Buffalo. But only a short time elapsed ere the glorious Pine Tree State burst into view and we were home again. The rock-bound coast of Maine is not attractive to the settler who has his home to make, but it has its champions and its sons. We had tarried long from the side of our loved one and were glad to return.

"Be it ever so humble there's no place like home."

And now dear Comfort readers we are back and at work again. We learned much of the great West even in so short an absence, and will give you the result of our efforts in short articles from time to time.

Hendrick Hudson.

The Columbian Express Gossino the Detroit River.

W

How Tropical Fruit is Brought Here.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION PAGE 10.]

WO of the most popular fruits in this country come from abroad. Pineapples grow principally in the West Indies and bananas in Central America, and the origin and growth of their popularity is mainly due to American enterprise.

Not many years ago the only banana used in the United States was the large, thick, red skinned fruit that came from the West Indies. Immense quantities of this fruit were annually consumed, and the business soon became of the first magnitude. During all this time there was no organized trade in bananas, sailing vessels that were not otherwise engaged or coasters that went to the South loaded with coal, ice or lumber, and were obliged to return "in ballast," that is without any cargo, first took the bananas to help them out on the cost of the homeward voyage, selling the fruit for what they could get on their return. Soon however the importance of the business became apparent, and it was not long after that the firm of Frank Brothers appeared on the scene, and for many years absolutely controlled the business.

career and ultimate disappearance, form an instructive and valuable lesson to the young man who is anxious to get along. The eldest brother, August, was one of the ship's crew on board the Aspinwall, a steamer that plied between New York, Acapulca, and other South American points. He commenced by bringing with him as many bunches or "hands" as he had money to pay for. On his arrival he disposed of them for a handsome profit. The fruit controlled by this firm was the celebrated yellow banana grown mainly along the Isthmus of Panama, and is lighter, more delicate, and of finer flavor than its West India rival. Realizing the fact that a trader was of more consequence in this world than a ship's hand August Frank sent for his two brothers Charles and Octo. Charles became the head of the firm in New York, and was recognized everywhere as a man of spotless integrity, and extraordinary financial ability. Yet in the early days of the firm's existence he did not scruple to do the lowest and meanest detail that fell



for their allowance of banamas. He was up and about at all hours of the day and night. A steamer might come in at 2 o'clock or 3 o'clock or any other unseemly hour in the morning and he must be on hand to receive it. At night the pedlars returned with their push carts and found storing come in the cellar of the banama firm. It was a very modest way to begin what afterwards became such a large firm, but it shows what can be accomplished by pluck, perseverance and hard work.

In a few short years the Frank Brothers trolled the banama business of this country, and take no other banamas than those for the Franks. It was practically useless to compete with such a sinp Co. were also under contract with the brothers to take no other banamas than those for the Franks. It was practically useless to compete with such a monopoly, and for many years the business remained in this condition.

The cargo of fruit as it was received from the vessel was still unripe. The long, yellow covered banama was a deep green, and was plucked and packed in the steamer at such a time that its growth was checked by reducing the temperature in the hold. Immediately on coming to sunlight again the ripening of the fruit continued, and in a few days the fruit was at its most perfect state. But little of the cargo was brought to the store, the main portion being delivered direct to the consumer, or shipped in refrigerator cars to distant cities. The monopoly however was eventually destroyed, though not until the Franks had become enormously wealthy.

The other fruit that comes largely to the United States from the West Indies is the succulent, juicy and always enjoyable pineapple. In all the great cities like Chicago, Boston, New York and Philadelphia, this delicious article is on sale in numerous ways down to the single slices that are offered the school urchins at the munificent price of 1 cent per slice, and which enables many a poor Irishwoman to the shoot urchins at the munificent price of 1 cent per slice, and which enables many a poor Iris

fflicers. Notwithstanding all this the main use of truit in Notwithstanding all this the main use of truit in unmmer is beneficial, and its consumption goes on with increasing popularity. It is one of nature's wise provisions for the care of health.

Important.

For a year's Trial we will Mail Comfort for only 25c. Knowing we have adopted a Name which carries great weight when it is Solid, and believing Comfort is what every one in the world is after, we will send our Crumbs out 12 months for only 25c. without Premiums, 12 Numbers of which will surely give you Solid Comfort for the whole year and we shall endeavor to cater so much to the Comfort of mankind that any one once receiving a Copy will become a life member to our Subscription list. We trust we may hear from all our friends and learn how they each consider the best way for taking Comfort and we hope to furnish them many hints for happiness. There are Thousands of Papers published in the country, but none like "Comfort", and no matter how many Pereodicals you are taking, you will surely want to Take Comfort and also get up Clubs so your priends may take it and you receive some of the Premiums for your trouble. Remember the only way to Take Comfort is To Get Comfort for a whole year.

ALL LADIES

are beginning to use the new style hairpins that do not injure the hair in any way, being made of shell and amber they are smooth and delicate. We send you a set of four of there pretty souvenirs free postpaid if you secure one new subscriber for Comport at 25c., as we are anxious to have all see the new summer features.

Monor & Co. Avensta, Me.

to announce the result of the Essay University of Patrice and States of the Campbell Wright, Trent, Texas. Honorable mention is also made of the essay of Mrs. Elizabeth Rodke, Roff, Ind, Ter.

Now I want to say a few words about the Essay Club, as many inquiries concerning it have come to me lately. The object of the Club is twofold: The mental improvement of its members and the assisting of the poor and suffering. The former object is pursued by contests in essay writing at stated intervals, encouraged by prizes kindly offered by the pub lishers of Comport; the latter by a yearly fee assessed upon the members, and given by a committee to some worthy object. The President of the Club is Miss Mary Storey, Madison, Kans; I have myself assumed the office of Sec'y and Treas. Any subscriber of Comport may join the Club at any time by sending the yearly fee of 10c, to me; and I will once more urge upon the old members the necessity of paying their dues for this year, if they wish to take part in future contests. The rought to be very many who are willing to give the small sum of 10c. a year for "sweet charity's sake," besides the benefit derived from the contests. The badges of the Club may be obtained from me at 10c. each. We want to make as good a showing as possible at the Coursn's RENION, so let us at once have a grand gathering of old and new members before the next contest. There is now in the treasury the sum of \$2.20, but I think it best to wait until this is somewhat augmented before distributing it. I await the answers of the members to the request which I made last month in regard to this matter. Remember, no one is now a voting member of the Club who has not paid the dues for 1892. The report of the committee on the choice of a subject will be given next month.

I must speak once more about the matter of signing real names to your letters. This is absolutely imperative, and no letter will be admitted unless the writer sends with it his or her full name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as

care to do so.

The Cousins' Temperance Union has a report to present.

REPORT FOR 11 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 31, Number of members to date .
Admission fees rec'd " " .
Total dues " " " ...

I have handed in my resignation to the President to take effect April 5; so all communications must be addressed to him until a new secretary is appointed. Your friend and co-worker, FRANK SHORT, Nelson, Mich. I extend thanks to the officers of the Temperance Union for their courtesy in electing me an honorary member of the society, and for the pledge and badge which were so kindly sent me. You have my most cordial sympathy in your work, in the future as in the past.

the past.

I have thought it might be interesting to divide the letters into sections geographically this month, hearing from as many different States as possible. There will not be room for more than one letter from each State, probably, but we will have that one as good as possible.

possible.

First let New England speak; and Maine shall have the first word, because that is the birthplace and home of COMFORT.

have the first word, because that is the birthplace and home of COMFORT.

"Somewhere I have read in a literary criticism, this advice to amateur writers: 'If you have anything to say in this world, either vocally, or with the pen, say it directly, neatly, accurately; if not, silence; there are enough magples.' So when the suggestion came to me to write a few lines, the thought also occurred that I might be counted as one of the magples alluded to; for what I would say might only be in appreciation of what others have said in the many interesting letters which have found their way to my seeluded home, combined in one printed mass, which bears upon its titlepage the significant name of COMFORT. I want to tell you how much I like this same little COMFORT, for in it do we not observe mind answering to mind, like faces reflected in a mirror, although miles of sea and land intervene between them? I should like Extremely well to wear that badge which was referred to, for if Fortune favors me I shall be at the Exposition in Chicago, and nothing would please me more than to see the cousins all meeting together in one grand jubice. You see with what earnestness I have built an air-castle, and that is where I dwell most of the time. I think it much bettler for body and mind, if the struggle is hard, to build them, even if they fall again like 'ropes of sand.' I see the temperance question is being discussed. Some one has said that profamity, tobacco is where I dwell most of the time. I think it much better for body and mind, if the struggle is hard, to build them, even if they fall again like 'ropes of sand.' I see the temperance question is being discussed. Some one has said that profanity, tobacco and rum go hand in hand. This reminds me of what theard a gentleman say not long since: 'My faiher was a deacon, and brought us boys up strictly, never allowing us the use of tea, tobacco, or rum, never using profane language himself or allowing us to do so; and I think it is no mark of a gentleman in now one else. But I had a cousin to whom profanity had become such a habit that he could hardly speak a sentence without an oath. Once he was talking with a girl whom he liked and wanted to marry, and was making love to her in his coarse, rough way, when at last the girl said to him, 'Why, you can't speak a sentence without swearing; I've been watching to see how many oaths you have used white talking. You can't utter a sentence without an oath. 'I can too,' he retorted. 'Well, let me hear you then.' 'You are a prefty girl,' he repeated very slowly. 'And that is a lie,' she answered quickly, 'and lying is just as bad as swearing!'' And so it is, undoubledly. Would like to exchange curiosities with the cousins. MAGPIE, BOX O, Burnham, Maine."

I cannot just agree with Magpie about "castlebuilding." It has been my experience and observation that indulgence in day-dreaming units the mind for active duties, and makes one morbid, irritable and self-absorbed. Better to let the mind be occupied with some good book, or with plans which shall be of practical benefit to some one else.

Now a few words from Vermont.

"The town in which I live has a population of 3,300, and is very pleasantly located on Otter Creek

"The town in which I live has a population of 3,300, and is very pleasantly located on Otter Creek and Mill River. There are many fine marble quarries here. Two summer resorts are near by, Lake Dunmore and Fern Lake. A few years ago an Indian canoe was taken from Fern Lake, which proves that Vermont was once the home of Indians. I think the

Cousins' Temperance Union is a grand thing, and hope that many will join it.

BRANDONIAN, Brandon, Vt."

New Hampshire, Conn. and "Little Rhody" have not been heard from lately, so we will leave New England with a letter from Mass.

"I live in the old Bay State, and am of German descent. I came to this country at the age of 10, received a very meagre education at the public schools, and at 14 years was obliged to leave school and go to work. But I studied at home as well as I could, and

from experience in such things. Correspondence with the cousins solicited, English and German. Address with Aunt Minerva.

HANK HUCKLEBERRY."

rejoice. Librarian, Lock-box 209, Fulton, N. Y."

The gist of your argument lies in the sentence, "It is not war that should be ceasured, but that which causes its necessity." Yet in the (supposed) constant advance of civilization, ought not the national sentiment of the people of the world to be in time educated up to the point where there will be no necessity for war? The trivial matters for which nations rush to arms, instead of submitting them to arbitration, the zeal with which great armies are raised and maintained at an enormous expense, the present attitude of Europe, where each country seems only seeking an opportunity to attack the others, all these show that that millennial season is yet far away.

Pena. is always largely represented among my ters, and from them I will select one from a nephew.

"What I like about this column is, that the let are so earnest and sensible. I heartily endorse i lie's defence of love affairs. It is only silly pe who think love silly, and I have not a very exa opinion of those who deem love to be a weakness something to be ashamed of. There is nothing ennobling, so refining in its influence, so exalte its character as love. And is it not possible that may love without being 'in love,' as Nellie seem intimate? If not, then I must plead ignorance of personal experience in the matter. When Paul c manded 'love one another,' he did not mean that which we are supposed to feel 'when the right comes along,' but he referred to that general priple of love which is implanted in the hearts of mankind, and which by cultivation may be so veloped as to extend even to our enemies. I hope Temperance Club will prosper. The true remedy intemperance, in my opinion, is Prohibition. I lieve prohibition is going to win, but it cannot y public opinion is strongly in its favor. The grea

New Jersey has a patriotic representative.

"Les Cheaux, that was a charming letter you wrote. I believe such letters are more appreciated by the Shut-Ins than so much talk of religion; they need cheer and mirth as well. I wish I could have been with you on that sleigh-ride. I live in northern New Jersey among the hills, and it is lovely here in summer. Often I climb the hills for the sake of the grand view from the top. I am proud of my native State and loyal to the Stars and Stripes. As to the question, who are the happiest, I believe it is those who possess a happy, sunny disposition under all circumstances, loving and loved by all that know them. I would like to hear from a good, woman who is lonely, perhaps we might be of mutual benefit.

As Del. is not heard from, W. Va. will come next.

As Del. is not heard from, W. Va. will come next.
"I live in the northern part of the State, near Manington, the great oil centre. There have been thou ands upon thousands of barrels of oil sent from this leid by means of a pipe line which extends from St sands upon thousands of barrels of oil sent from this field by means of a pipe line which extends from St. Marys, on the Ohio river, through the State to the Atlantic seaboard. Natural gas is found in large quantities, which supplies many people with fuel. Oil is found by boring from 1,800 to 25,000 feet. This is a rough State, yet its hills and mountains are filled with minerals which at no distant day will make it one of the richest States in the Union. I agree with the cousins about the liquor traffic; it is the worst curse of our nation. Three-fourths of all the crimes committed in this country are caused by drink. Tobacco is the next greatest curse. I would like to correspond with those who think as I de about these things.

H. T. HALL.

From the little District of Columbia I have such an

about these things.

Mannington, W. Va."

From the little District of Columbia I have such an interesting letter from one who has called before.

"Notwithstanding the inclement weather and entailing grip Washington has had a very gay season. During the past winter many theatrical celebrities have been 'treading the boards' here. First and foremost the 'divine Sarah' has delighted anew her admirers in her fumous impersonation of Joan of Arc; Rhea, the French actress with her excellent support in La Czarina, is as graceful and majestic as ever; 'Fritz' Emmet, son of the now deceased, but once renowned and popular J. K. Emmet, bears out the character 'Fritz in Ireland' even more successarily than did his talented father. Too, we have had the celebrated Meininger Opera Co. here and truly they are deserving of all the praise bestowed upon them. Though not a German, and possessing only a very limited knowledge of the language of the fatherland I went to see their Julius Casar played 'auf Deutsch.' It was superb; the conspiracy, the tragic death of Cæsar, the oration of Marc Anlony and the movements of the fickle Roman Rob, bearing to

HOW THEY SIGN THEIR NAMES.

It is said, with a great deal of truth, no doubt, that from the handwriting of people their character may be read.

This is the way the happy couple who at the present time occupy the most prominent official position in the United States write their names:—

WASHINGTON.

Very Hamsin Caroline Sett Farmson

And this is the handwriting of the progressive Cabinet official who believes that, inasmuch as the business-man's mail is delivered to him at his office by Uncle Sam's carrier, the farmer is entitled to have his mail brought to his door also:



Office of the Postmaster General, Mashington, D.C.

My Manamaker Formasku General

Here are the sentiments and signa ure of the beloved widow of America's most distinguished divine:

> Brooklyn May 41/892 yours for Comfort" Mrs Kenry hard Beecher

Our late Min ster to France, Mr. Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York Tribune whose signeture appears next, is the author of the following sentiment, which should be taken to heart by every citizen of the United States:-

"Americans should dismify, not degrade, politics. They should realize that to go into politics is to deal with the highest objects of human concern; and that the pretended feeling of contempt for those who do, marrly because they do, is the sure mark of a snob. Let us learn that, next to the ministry of God, the highest career open to human ambition is the service of the people."



The next signature is that of the popular author and humorist who has made more people smile than any living American, although he rarely smiles himself. He is known the world over as Mark Twain, but his real name is Samuel L. Clemens, and he climbed the ladder of success by making other people forget their troubles.

Meank livain

gracefully the toga, and with their shapely bare arms ever waving; one minute in a perfect frenzy of anger, the next in warm patriotic enthusiasm, all defy description. One of the brightest 'stars' in musical circles was also shere—Leonora Von Stosch, the already famous violinist of whom is predicted a brilliant future. I went to the Capitol recently; I go there accasionally to read in the library but the time in question I visited the House. They always have a lively time in the House but in the Senate there eemed to be a South Sea caim. The subject of the lebate then in progress was an appropriation for gricultural purposes and I certainly did enjoy it—Loiman, the watch dog of the Treasury,' a man of pare build, was of course on the negative side but lespite his opposition the bill passed. Looking lown upon that assembly of the Representative law makers of the United States it is hard to realize that they take such a big part in controlling public money and ruling the land. Here we do not find schoolious of the realize that they take such a big part in controlling public money and ruling the land. Here we do not find schoolious order nor the quiet of a lecture hall but as in heir school-days the members need sometimes, and frequently too, to be called to order. Perhaps some bill is pending; then those interested are debating or listening intently to the proceedings while a busy member right there is answering a voluminous correspondence and near by one is about to send outone mail; he claps his hands and instantly a page inns up to receive his instructions; upon a distant ettee two grave looking members are engaged in serious conversation and here is a merry group of three with their chairs tilted back while they listen to some good story, I judge, for they slap their kneed and laugh heartily. In the halls of Congress the student of human nature finds much to interest him. Some are agitating in these columns the question of dirting. A bad habit, of course, but to most girls the impulse to flirt, to be just a

reference to minor pears in the resintulness. Hoping dear Aunt Minerva will again welcome,

JEANIE, Washington, D. C."

Now we will travel on down the coast through the Southern States.

"Here I come again from the midst of those Indians which seem to be a grand curiosity to the cousins. Our youngsters and older ones too, obtained a full supply of intoxicating liquor to celebrate that grand day on which our Mediator was born. The awful horrors which are entailed upon the human family by this monster evil—intemperance—can never be everstated. The man does not live who can tell the whole story of its wees. Were I an engraver, I would borrow a pencil from Raphæl and dip it into the fountain of human sorrow and I would engrave a picture of this evil of intemperance. Would put into that picture every conceivable thing that was terrible and revolting. I would paint all the crimes, from foul murder standing aghast over the open grave which it has no means to cover, to the meanest deception still confident of success. I would paint a dark, dreary and cheerless valley and call it the 'Valley of the shadow of death,' and people it with everliving slaves. I would paint a deep and gloomy cavern where sunlight never strays; where foul odors fill the air and where the dying moans of murdered men re-echo through its sepulchral vaults. Would fresso it with slimy serpents and crawling spiders, and on the walls the faces of grinning devils should gleam out with maddening fury and flendish hate. I would paint prison doors that open inwardly only and then people the scene with men whose shattered forms were tenanted by tormented souls; with sadfaced children, upon whose lips no smile could ever play; while women whose cheeks had been burned by tears wrung by anguish from bleeding hearts, pressing to their bosoms their starving babes. And in the center of this picture flows a deep, dark river rushing angrily on, bearing everything on its heaving bosom toward an awful Niagara of death. It waters should be the tears of weeping eyes a

nope the time is not tar distant when the girls all never touch mine.

Robt. CHILDERS.
Birdtown, N. C."

"I am the daughter of a Southern farmer, and 'exist' near the small town of Page's Mills. I have a few pets, but must confess, my pets are of the neuter gender; a hoe-handle in spring-time, and a cotton-picking sack in autumn. Our country is known as the 'Suany South,' but those who think its climate a perpetual summer would be somewhat surprised if they could see us skating and snow-balling; they would be again surprised if they could see the beautiful cotton fields. I can play anything I ever heard on a violin, but that is the only musical instrument can perform on; yet I can perform on sewingmachine, stove, wash and ironing boards, but of course they are not choice performances. I would like to correspond with the coustins, musicians preferred.

As Georgia does not seem to be very well represented, I will admit one of the "young folks" into our corner to speak for that State, as he seems to be a pretty forward boy!

"I live in a beautiful land of flowers and trees, and love my native State. I do not mean that I am in any way prejudiced against the North. I welcome them as brothers and sisters, and fondly hope for the time when we will be united as firmly in the bonds of friendship as we were before the late war. I would like to ask the boys a few questions. What do you intend to be when you are men? How do you intend to gain the knowledge requisite for your entrance into the profession you mean to choose? I believe that every boy should decide by the time he is 15, what he means to be. I am only 15, but have firmly iccided to become a civil engineer when igrown. I take a great interest in mathematical problems, and would be glad to receive some from cousins who are fond of mathematics. Am also interested in ornithology and natural history. I am constantly studying the habits of birds, and the more I study, the more interesting it becomes.

DIXIE BOY.

Good advice for you, boys. Make up your mind as soon a

Florida next.

"I wish some of the cousins could sit with me on my veranda this morning and enjoy the lovely view of island gulf. The air is laden with the perfume of orange blossoms. I think we are going to have a splendid orange crop this year, judging from the bloom on the trees; the ground under them is white with fallen petals, which are very nice to fill sachets with. John's Pass is on the Gulf coast about 40 miles west of Tampa, and boasts of having the largest and west of Tampa, and boasts of having the largest and finest hotel in the world, which has been crowded with guests the past winter. I must go to the island this afternoon to get some shells and corals for my numerous exchanges, and also put out some bulbs in my yard. We had quite a frost and ice the 18th of March. Will be pleased to correspond with any of the cousins who will enclose stamp.

Mrs. A. Stephens, Johns Pass, Fle."

Mrs. A. Stephens, Johns Pass, F12"

Now we have come "away down South in Alabama."

"Let me give the cousins a description of a most delightful trip 1 had to Mt. Vernon barrack, to see the Indians that are confined there. We had to ride 4 miles to the Ala. river, where we got a yawl; and before the sun had made its appearance over the hills, we were afloat upon the smooth water. After becoming tired of admiring the beautiful scenery, lunch baskets were brought, and we breakfasted on the water. When we reathed Mt. Vernon warehouse, we were met by a man with a four mule wagon. Such a ride as we had! we had not gone very far before the rain came pouring down. The driver laid whip to the mules, and they started off on a lope, and we were nearly shaken out of our seats. After a ride of imiles, we stopped at the little village, took dinner, and were then ready to visit the Indians. We were not a little surprised to find the men covering houses, clearing land, etc., but they are kept under guard. The government furnishes lumber, with which they are made to build comfortable houses; but many prefer their former mode of living, and have wigwams built of straw, bark, cloth, etc., and the women prepare the food out on the ground, or let the smoke Now we have come "away down South in Alabama."

from the fire go out through a hole in the top of the tent. At one tent we saw a little girl grinding coffee by putting it on a rock and rubbing it with another stone. They are fond of money, and sell beads, bows and arrows, moccasins, anything that they have to get it. The chief was very friendly, and after shaking hands with the crowd, he offered us seats in his tent, and showed us some photographs of himself, of which he seemed to be very proud. They only spoke a few words of English. We visited the government buildings, but the afternoon passed rapidly away, and soon we had to leave to take the steamer.

LUELLA FERGUSON, Latham, Ala."

A volce from Miss. to join the discussion on war.

"What a treat! I have just heen reading the Chats

from the fire go out through a hole in the top of the tent. At one tent we saw a little girl grinding coffee by putting it on a rock and rubbing it with another stone. They are fond of money, and sell beads, bows and arrows, moccasins, anything that they have to get it. The chief was very friendly, and after shaking hands with the crowd, he offered us seats in his ing hands with the crowd, he offered us seats in the stein ghands with the crowd, he offered us seats in the stein ghands with the crowd, he offered us seats in the stein ghands with the crowd, he offered us seats in the stein ghands with the crowd, he offered us seats in this is a rough, mountainous country. We have fine seenery; from our place we can see the sand of that State.

Now an old friend from Ark. will tell us something of that State.

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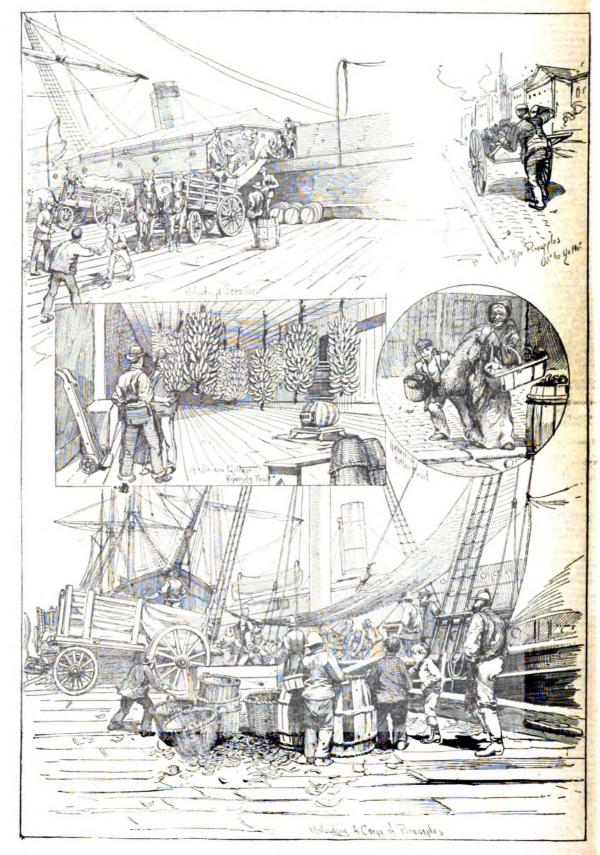
Now an old friend from Ark. will tell us something of that State.

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Now an old friend from Ark. will tell us something of that State.

Now an old friend from

here, 26 years of age, and have been engaged in teaching for the past 8 years. Like Wisconsin Wild Bill I am a bachelor, but unfortunately for my peace of mind, I do not possess his distaste for the society of the other sex. Southeastern Ky, has, until lately, been almost completely isolated from other portions of the State. Separated from the Bluegrasportion by almost impassable mountains, her people were, and are, almost a world unto themselves, with manners and customs that seem uncouth and odd to an outsider. This region consists of a succession of narrow, but fertile, valleys and rugged mountains, stern, severe and sombre, which afford secure hiding-places to the moonshiner and wildcatter. The inhabitants, in their characteristics, resemble the region they inhabit, and in general have a serious cast of countenance and a weary, longing, inquiring look out of eyes that seem to peer into the future, as if asking what recompense it had in store for the weary, monotonous toil endured in this life. Kentucky, in early days, was called 'The dark and bloody ground,' and, until lately, this section has merited a continuation of the title. Human life was held all too cheaply, and scarcely a week passed by without its fierce encounter and bloody feud. Life, which is often a struggle for mere existence and destitute of all the amenities of a more civilized society, was considered almost valueless, a thing to be despised, and they met death with the unshrinking courage of the old Vikings, who, when they found him approaching, had themselves carried on board



Blue and the Gray? DIXIE LASS, Caloga, Miss."
Thank you for your kind words for Auntie: it is
pleasant to know our column is appreciated. We
must all plan to make the World's Fair Reunion a
success, as no one person can do that. Who is going to the great U. S. C. E. convention in New York
next month? I hope to be there, and perhaps can arrange to meet some of the cousins if they will write
to me this month.

Excuse this discontinuation.

range to meet some of the cousins if they will write to me this month.

Excuse this digression from the letters. Let me see, I believe Louisana comes next.

"I will write a few lines about a very interesting part of New Orleans, Chalmette, where sleep friend and foe. It is in the parish of St. Bernard, and fronts the river and wharf. A brick wall separates it from an old fortification and earth-mound said to have been built by Gen. Jackson in 1815. The tree under which Gen. Packenham was buried is there. Every step is taken over ground watered by the blood of our country's heroes. The entrance gate and fence are very handsome. Near the latter is a platform around which twine dark green vings; this platform is used on Decoration Day by the orators. The grounds are beautifully laid out, trees, shrubs and flowers everywhere. Over each grave is a small marble slab bearing a number, the only record of the self-sacrificing love of the one whose ashes lie beneath. In the centre of the cemetery is a pillar, at the base of which repose cannon, and from the top

dreadful time, and yet say 'war is grand, war is glorious'? I am a true Southern girl, and love the beautiful South; but my love for the Union is stronger still. How many of the Northern cousins will clasp hands with me over the graves of the 'Blue and the Gray'? DIXIE LASS, Calooga, Miss."

bands of outlaws and desperadoes, caused us always to be in a state of defence. We formed ourselves into companies known as Rangers, and often invaded the country of our foes and punished them severely for their many deeds of theft, arson and murder. At the Blue and the Gray'? DIXIE LASS, Calooga, Miss."

bands of outlaws and desperadoes, caused us always to be in a state of defence. We formed ourselves into while swept old oceans wave, and with sails all and the vessel fired, went forth joyously to meet alone on the wild wastes of waters, exulting in the bound of the country of our foes and punished them severely for the immany deeds of theft, arson and murder. At the logic many description is the properties of the far West as the properties of the far Wes

them. MADCAP."

It is not often that such distinguished characters appear among us; but I must say that I am glad that I live in a part of the country which does not need to be protected in such a way as our famous cousin describes.

I have a very interesting letter from Ky. "I will introduce myself to the cousins by saying I am a mountain teacher or 'master' as we all say

some favorite galley, on whose deck they had erstwhile swept old oceans wave, and with sails all set and the vessel fired, went forth joyously to meet him, alone on the wild wastes of waters, exulting in the hope of a gladsome welcome to Valhallas halls. At present the fashion has changed somewhat and it is considered not quite the thing, to die with one's boots on. Even Craig Tolliver, the noted desperdo, the hero of a thousand desperate adventures and hairbreadth escapes, surrounded in the Cottage Hotel at Mooschead by a hundred infuriated, relentless mountaineers determined to avenge the murder of the Logan boys, realizing that escape was impossible and death inevitable, after bringing down the foremost of his assailants with his Winchester, turned to a friend in the hotel office and said, 'Bob, it shall never be said of me that I died with my boots on,' then seating himself in a chair drew off his boots and in his stocking feet and with a smile on his face, he stepped out upon the pavement and fell riddled with a hundred balls. If some of the cousins would write me, as we say here in the mountains, 'they would do me proud.

COLLINS MCGEE, America, Lee Co., Ky."

With a word from Tenn., we leave the Southern

States.

"I live in Memphis, and as the chief object of interest here at present is the new bridge which spans the Father of Waters.' I will give you a brief description of it. The bridge is 72 ft. above water mark and nearly 11-2 miles in length. Most of the structure is of steel, the pedestal-plates of cast-iron, and the nuts and swivels of wrought iron. The main pin of the cantilever truss is 14 inches in diameter, and

weighs 2,200 lbs. The piers are, made of Geo. gia granite and Indiana limestone. This bridge when completed will have cost over \$3,000,000. The dedication will take place May 12th, when there will be a grand celebration. I think the idea of the Reunion is just fine, and I intend to be there and enjoy myself with the rest.

Mayblossom.

Now for the North Central States; we must hasten on, for I fear that we shall overrun our space.

"In looking over the back numbers of COMPORT, I find but few letters on the subject of music; why is it? I am deeply interested in music, which I consider the most pleasing and beautiful of all the arts. There is nothing nicer in the home than to have each of the young folks learn some instrument, and when tired of reading, spend the evening in music, instead of finding amusement in the saloon and places of a like nature. Will not some one write on this subject? tell your favorite instruments, plees, etc. As for myself, I am a member of a glee club, and play the organ and guitar.

C. L. C., Box 229, Pioneer, Ohio.

There is nothing that makes home more attractive than music, and all the members of the family who have any taste at all in that direction, should learn to perform on some instrument, and add to the general enjoyment. So many young people, upon whose musical education their parents have spent large sums of money, are never willing to play at home, but keep their accomplishments wholly for outsiders; "haven" got time" to give pleasure to father and mother, to brothers and sisters, by their music. This is cruelly selfsh and unkind to those whom it should be their greatest pleasure and duty to please.

Now the Hoosier State.

"I heartily agree with D. G. B. in her opinion on dancing. There is no harm in dancing, as you say,

should be their greatest pleasure and duty to please. Now the Hoosier State.

"I heartily agree with D. G. B. in her opinion on dancing. There is no harm in dancing, as you say, but it is in the company one meets at such places. Many men and women have been led astray by the bad company they met at balls. The ball-room is no place for a lady who respects herself. No Christian can attend dances and keep unspotted from the world. I am glad to see so many of the cousins are interested in temperance and hope they will ever be total abstainers from the flery poison. Dear cousins, let us put in a word for temperance every chance we get and do all we can in this great and noble cause. I believe that woman should vote on the liquor question because I am sure she would vote for prohibition. I would like to see the United States become temperate and prohibit the use of all intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Next to intoxicating liquors i detest tobacco and would that with liquor it were banished from our fair country. I would like to correspond with telegraph operators.

Sweet WILLIAM."

Here comes a genuine boy from the World's Fair city.

"I have been down to the Exposition several times."

Now a few words from lowa.

"Tannie and Dick, your letters are my sentiments exactly; will you write to me? I am 20 years old, a member of the King's Daughters. I am trying to ! ta Christian life and labor for the Master.

"Labor! for the day is waning, Night is coming swiftly on; And some task for Christ the Master Still remaineth to be done."

Live in porthern Lown pear, the boundary line of

Still remaineth to be done.'

I live in northern Iowa, near the boundary line of
Minn. Iowa has rich sell and good crops. Temperance work and other institutions flourish. Correspondence solicited. Miss T. A. ANDERS,
Plymouth Iowa."

"I have been reading Wisc. Wild Bill's letters over twice, and I believe he likes the girls better than those boys who say they do, because by experience I have found this to be invariably the case. This world would get along in the negative if it wasn't for the girls, and the same is true of the boys; both must have a hand in it or it won't go. A good many

have been wanting to get hold of Bill and shake him, but by his name I believe he could help shake a little. Maybe he is only fooling us as to the girts; most probably he has one picked out somewhere.

John T. Hoffman, Oronoco, Minn."

This has been my opinion of W. W. B. all along, and I think he will contess yet!

There are always so many cousins from Mo., but I select one letter.

Dear Auntie:—I'm so glad those owls have turned their backs: While they are inspecting the World's Fair, I will try and express my appreciation of Comyoras and think it improves with every number. Adam's Wile, I agree with you that if there were more good housewives there would be less cause for divorces, but I do not agree with you in regard to working women. I am a stenographer myself and have a number of friends who are of the same profession. What would you have a woman do? Sit down and hold her hands until some man came along and married here? At the place where I board there are 3 other stenographers and a school-teacher, all women. Every one of them, including myself, can cook, sew and do housework. I think that home is the highest sphere to a woman given, but I would far rather be a profession in wind many than a preside over some men's homes, I would like to shake hands with those of the cousins who are against the use of tobacco, intoxicating liquors, profane language and firting. I would like to shake hands with those of the cousins who are against the use of tobacco, intoxicating liquors, profane language and firting. I would like to add gun-chewing, but am afraid I would call down, and home against the use of tobacco, intoxicating liquors, profane language and firting. I would like to add gun-chewing, but am afraid I would eal down allowed and womanhood being raised. My home is in Illinois, and we have some of the lovellest seenery. Success to Comport.

EDNA EARL.

I would like to have had Kans, Sunflower to speak for her State, but as I have had no letter from her seed to the profession and none of the social content

I would like to have had Kans, Sunflower to speak for her State, but as I have had no letter from her lately, we will hear from Kans. Red Bird.

"As Adam's Wife has asked A Kansas Red Bird to write again, I will endeavor to write from my new mountain home. As I write I am sitting on the stone that divides the 3 States, viz. Tenn. Va. and Ky. As I sit facing the east I can see 3 towns. At the foot of the Pinnacle is the town of Cumberland Gap; a place of about 500 inhabitants. The place which was in war times the camp (and some battle) grounds of both Union and Confederate armies. The Pinnacle

called "kissing games," and will give my reasons if necessary.

"I live on a ranch on an island in Puget Sound. There are 2 large saw-mills on this island; the largest is 400 by 100 feet, and saws about 300,000 feet of lumber in a day. One day I put a saddle on one of my steers and thought I would have a ride. My! but he did tear around, it most shook me to pieces, but he didn't get me off for all that. Chas. Sutter.

"I live in Northern Idaho about 6 miles from Genesee, the postoffice and nearest town. Moscow the largest town is about 18 miles north and Lewistown is about 18 miles south and Lewistown is about 18 miles southeast and is a lovely place; the indians have a pretty church and a very nice school-house there. I went down there last summer on horseback and was rowed across Clearwater by an Indian over to the town, the scenery there is lovely. Correspondence solicited from Southern girls.

A few words from the land of Mormons, Utah.

A few words from the land of Mormons, Utah.

Over \$30,000 in presents were given away the past two years by the Hobb's Medicine Co., Chicago, simply to advertise Dr. Hobb's Little Vegetable Pills, which, for curing liver and kidney troubles, constipa-tion or despepsia, "are the best on earth." Read their prize "ad" in another column.

TOILET COMB FREE.

We have a large lot of very nice Combs in Leatheret Cases, they can be carried in the pocket and are just what the men, women and children all want. To all who send six cents for two months trial subscription to Comfort, we will send one free prestant. two months trial subscription will send one free postpaid.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

SOLD FIVE DOLLARS WORTH IN FOUR

Gentlemen: Please find enclosed M. O. for an assorted lot of OXIEN, your blessed Food for the Nerves. It goes

OXIEN, your Diessed Food to like hot cakes.

When I received the last lot I sold five boxes in four minutes. It can't be beat, I can't say too much in praise of it. It has done more for me than anything that I everused.

Yours, W. McElwain, Dallas, N.C.

MANY AGENTS ARE MAKING ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS A DAY

selling Oxien and Oxien Electric Porous Plasters. Write for special agents terms to-day.

\$3 PAID per 1,000 for DISTRIBUTING CIRCULARS.
MALENA CO., Warrior's Mark, Pa. \$21 CUSTOM MADE PANTS. Send for samples.
THE F.J.FORD, PANTS CO., Fibit, Mich.

BIGYGLE TO BOYS AND GIRLS UNDER 18 FREE YEARS OF AGE ON HAY CONDITIONS FREE Western Pearl Co., 394 Dearborn St., Chicago, III

WATCHES AT WHOLESALE. Address A.C. ROEBUCK, M inneapolis, Minn.

Wanted AGENTS for Watches, Jewelry, big pay; write quick; outfit free. U. S. WATCH CASE CO., Winston, N. C.

FREE Catarrh cured free of all charge for recom-mendations after cure. For free cure ad-dress Medical Inhalation Co., Buffalo, N. Y. \$45 A WEEK to live Salesmen to sell retail dealers.
SALARY in stant. Without parallel as a quick sector. SALARY in sight to right sort of men. Address MERCHANT'S SAVINGS CO., 9 Fisher Block, Cincinnati, 0.

SALESMEN SALARY OR COMMISSION, TO HANDLE GREATEST NOVELTY PATENTED; EXCLUSIVE TERRITORY, SELLS AT SIGHT PARTICULARS FREE. SAMPLE 50 sts. AGENT UNITY DOOR CHECK CO. Dept. 45 UNITY BLDG., CHICAGO, ILL.

MONEY. I want a shrewd, careful man in each town to make thousands of dollars (for himself) quietly, and not work. Send 50 ets, for my Private Instructions and Outfit of Scarce Goods.

Address P. O. Box 49, Stockwell, New York. I want a shrewd, careful man in each

A beautiful enameled searf or stick pin with imitation diamond centre, and our book with 450 fine engravings sent FREE to any one sending 3 cents for postage. Write at once.
H. ENOBLOCH & CO., 1192 B'way, N. V.

TREE To any person who cuts out this advertisement, and returns it to us with a 22. stamp to pay postage, we will send absolutely free of charge, and prepaid charming Complete novel, entitled THE HIDDEN, JEWELS, by Mrs. JANE G. AUSTIN. Address: W. S. TRIGG, Publisher, 146 Duane Street, New York.

TOBACCO HABIT CURED



Washington Crossing
ware.-Cutthis ad. out.
to us and we will send
boautiful Gold Plated v
express, subject to ru
nation, and if you do
itequal to any water
at 8 times the pric SOLID GOLD WATCH

W. HILL & CO., Wholesale Jewelers, 201 to 211 State, (fomerly 111 Madison St.) CHICAGO, ILL.



WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.

report without waiting for the many property without waiting for the mean report is to be. It is a cyclone warning, were neverther is going to be wet, a fine mobile dog arises from his kennel back in the distance, and approaches the opening (see lillustration above), giving a signal that there is a storm approaching, and as the storm subsides, or if it will be over during the next 24 hours, a butterfly in all its splendor appears to tell you that sunshine is at hand, to gladden the hearts of mankind. The butterfly and the dog are made of metal in hardsome colors. The front is handsomely decorated with fancy designs and figures. In the centre stands an accurate thermometer; the whole thing being so simple that a child will understand it at once. When the devastating hurricane, cyclone and wind storms are approaching your home, this machine warns you long ahead, giving you time to prepare It is a wonderful machine, and will save your life and many a dollar besides. It tells you whether you had better talk your umbrella with you to-day. It tells a lady the weather and she will know the most suitable dress to wear, etc. Enclose and the will know the most suitable dress to wear, etc. Enclose and the will know the most suitable dress to wear, etc. your unbrella with you to-day. It tells a lady the weather, and she will know the most suitable dress to wear, etc. Encloses to Morse & Co., Eox 905 Augusta, Me.

would like to see the United States become temporal and prohibit the use of all indication is prompted before on and would that with liquor it were bankbed properties.

Here comes a genatic boy from the World's Fair with telegraph operators. Swerry William's Commercial Commercial Organization of the architectural deprehensive the second of the Boylean of the architectural deprehensive the second of the second of the architectural deprehensive the second of th THE STORY OF POLLY WOG. Where cowslips dwell,
A love-lorn frog
Sat on a log. With sighing croak B Would faithful be, And never wed None else, she said. And as she spoke, A fatal stroke Kerflopped her frog From off that log. With piercing shrick, The maiden meek Leaped from her log Into the bog. And skinning him, He served each limb, All brolled on toast, To hungry host. Upon a log, Another frog Loved Polly Wog? And such is life, — Come death, come of Our Polly Wog Loves t'other frog.

sion.

If am a western lad. I helped herd 850 head of cattle this summer, on the Sioux Reservation, and had my camp located about 10 miles from any white settlement, and had to vbatch it besides; my partner and I did the cooking by turns. Many a time we thought that if some woman would take pity on our poor souls, and do our cooking, we could make our camp a perfect heaven. Some of the cousins please write to me.

NEBRASKA WILD BILL."

You do not boost of being such a fire cook as your

You do not boast of being such a fine cook as your Wisconsin namesake, and are willing to acknowledge the necessity of girls, so I think that, all things considered, he is the wildest!

Any one from the Dakotas? yes, here is a niece from So. Dak.

from So. Dak.

"I am a telegraph operator and have a good position, but I do get lonesome and want some of the
cousins especially operators to write to me and I
will answer all letters. I agree with everything that
has been said against the use of tobacco and liquors.
I dislike tobacco smoke and have cards up in my
office 'No Smoking.' I want some of the cousins to

"In the March No. May Queen shows herself to a Queeen of her sex, though I think she's joking when she says she's not in love, while Adam's Wife seems to me an ideal of perfect womanhood that Adam ought to be proud of. But I have not yet introduced myself. First then I live in Utah. Therethere, dear Auntie, don't start so. Let be that your exclamation 'He's a Mormon' is correct, remember 'the devil is not so black as he's painted.' Of course you think of a Mormon as a long-haired, ignorant and much-married individual, something between a Chinaman and a cashier, en route for Canada, in morals. I have lived in Utah 15 years, have worked in 5 different counties in different occupations, and at the age of 26 am a bachelor still. Wasatch County (where my home is) was first settled in 1859. It is an agricultural district, has no railroad as yet. Population about 4,000 in all. There are 7 school districts where 14 teachers are employed, the schools are free and no religion is taught. Then there is a New West mission school and a Church Academy, 'Mormon. There are In the county 7 Mormon meeting-houses or

and no religion is taught. Then there is a New West mission school and a Church Academy, Mormon. There are in the county? Mormon meeting-houses or places of worship, 1 Methodist church, 12 business houses, 4 hotels, 2 livery stables, 7 blacksmith and carriage shops, 4 postoffices and 2 saloons. If any of the cousins wish to know anything more about Utah and the Mormons I shall be pleased to hear from them.

CHAS. J. WABLQUIST,

Heber, Wasatch Co., Utah."

"I cannot begin to tell you how much I enjoy the paper, but most of all I love the page devoted to Aunt Minerva and her Owls. I enjoyed Old Maid Cousin's spirited letter in the Oct. No. I know she is a jolly 'old maid' (if she is one). I am one of your 'Indian nicees.' You must not let any of the cousins laugh at me because I cannot use good English, yet I have never been outside of the Ind. Ter. but once in my life. But we have some good schools here and I have been studying English for quite a while. And if any of the cousins care to corresyond with an 'Indian cousin' I will try to make an interesting correspondent. Lizzie R. Kers, Keys, Ind. Ter."

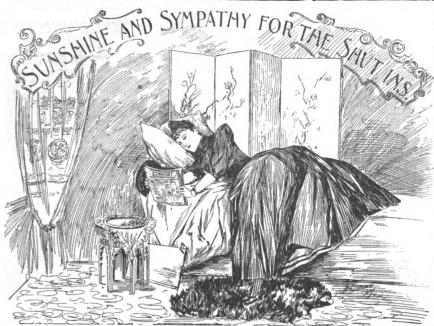
After travelling around all over the U. S., I am

ent. Lizzie R. Keys, Keys, Ind. Ter."

After travelling around all over the U. S., I am sure we are all tired, and I will bring the chat to a close, trusting you will all appreciate the Editor's kindness in allowing us so much space this month. This issue can well be called the Aunt Minerva Number and I hope all the Cousins will send in their quarters to Morse & Co., to renew subscriptions this month and also endeavor to get your friends to subscribe. Please remember what I said about private letters last month. Cordially your

AUNT MINERVA, (Care of COMPORT.)

OXIEN ELECTRIC POROUS PLASTERS ARE A SURE CURE FOR BACKACHE AND ALL OTHER PAINS.



MY DEAR SHUT-IN FRIENDS:
These beautiful June days bring to our minds those perfect verses of one of America's silver-tongued poets, James Russell Lowell:
"What is so rare as a day in June?

ica's silver-tongued poets, James Russell Lowell:
"What is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever, come perfect days.
Then Heaven tries the earth, if it be in tune, And over it softly her warm ear lays.
Whether we look, or whether we listen, We hear life murmur or see it glisten.
Every clod has a thrill of life,
An instinct within it that reaches and towers, And groping blindly above it for light,
Climbs to a soul in grass and flowers."
Once more the miracle of the resurrection has taken place, and Nature is clothed in her freshest robes of living green. I always feel so sorry for those who are unable to go out and enjoy the beautiful world, but loving hands will bring the sweet June roses to gladden the eye, and through the open window comes the perfume-laden breath of summer. It is better than to look out on the snow-drifts, isn't it, dear friends?
"Will you permit an old soldier to enter your cir-

is better than to look out on the snow-drifts, isn't it, dear friends?

"Will you permit an old soldier to enter your circle? I know how to sympathize with the sick ones; nearly 4 years of active service in the army broke down my constitution so that for the past 6 years I have been unable to work much, and a large portion of that time have been shut in on account of sickness. The words of the Saviour have always been precious to me, Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. In an experience of 16 years, I have ever found the Saviour true to His promise, a present help in time of need. I would not know how to bear the burden of life, if it were not for the consolations of the gospel. I would say to the sick ones, look up, have faith in God, and when dark clouds seem to hover over you, remember the sun is shining on the other side of the cloud, and God's protecting care is always over us. I enjoy reading comport very much, and look for its monthly visits as a friend. I live in a lively little town in the central part of Mich.; it is mostly noted for its silk factories, the only ones in the State. I would like to correspond with some one in South or West.

"As I am a Shut-In, I will venture to join your hand."

P. E. MATTHEWS, Box 370, Belding, Mich."

"As I am a Shut-In, I will venture to join your band. I was taken sick when a mere child, and have been unable to walk for 17 or 18 years. My body and limbs are greatly deformed, and I am as helpless as an infant. Hope is my only consolation. I am trusting in the great beyond, where sorrow, misery and pain are not known. Now, fellow sufferers, let us be patient and prayerful, and the Lord will not forget us. Remember that all our suffering is for a wise purpose, known only to our Heavenly Father. This is a mountainous country and very picturesque; on the highest mountains there is perpetual snow. Near here are numerous mines, and also the natural curiosity known as the 'Pots.' Best wishes to all.

JOHN PROBST, Midway, Utah."

Some time will you describe these "Pots" for us?

Some time will you describe these "Pots" for us? know that all would be interested.

"I am a poor sufferer from rheumatism; will some one send me reading matter to help pass away my lonely hours? Mrs. S. M. SUTTON, Box 39, Grove, Ind. Ter."

"Many thanks to the kind friends who have helped me. I would like a few more pieces for my quilt, any kind. MINNIE ROBERTS, Buford, Ga."

"When I was sick and not able to go out at all, I received a copy of COMPORT. If every one is cheered and helped as much as I was by the Shut-In column, then indeed COMPORT is a blessing to all. Kind friends sent me reading, and that helped to pass my time pleasantly, and I received my cheering letters. I am so thankful now that God has restored me to better health, so that I can go out at times. I prize the dear COMPORT; some kind person sends it to me, and they will be rewarded for their goodness.

Mrs. Rosa Marguis, 619 Louisa St., Chattanooga, Tenn."

"I am a great sufferer from rheumatism, and have

"Tam a great sufferer from rheumatism, and have been confined to the bed for 3 years. Will some kind friend send me reading? I hope some time to be able to subscribe for Comforn, but cannot now. JOSEPH B. OSBORNE, Jarrett, W. Va." Dear Shut-Ins:—May I call a few minutes this morning? I have been an invalid for a long time; have spent 6 months of the past year in bed, and undergone 2 operations. But don't think I am complaining, for let me tell you a secret, it has really been a happy year; for although my sufferings have been great, the dark cloud has had a silver lining, for Jesus has blessed me every moment, and I praise Him for His keeping power. My silver cross (for I am a Daughter of the King) has helped me so much, and I have tried to bear my pain and trouble I. H.N. I wonder if people realize how much good a letter, or a roll of papers, or some trifling gift, cheers an invalid especially if they live on a farm in the country, as I do. Let us remember in the hours of pain that Jesus knows it all, and He sends the sunshine, the rain and snow now, that by and by the blossoms should come, and that with the birds and flowers we might sing praises to His name. Lovingly your friend,

CLARA C. FAIRCHILD, Saugus, Mass.

"I have been an invalid for 12 long years, no use of

CLARA C. FAIRCHILD, Saugus, Mass.

"I have been an invalid for 12 long years, no use of my limbs part of the time, and my little daughter has lung and heart trouble. If some one would send her pictures, toys, beads, cards, or anything that children love, to while away the hours, and to poor discouraged me a few books or papers to read. We are very poor, and I do whatever fancy work I can to help along; papers containing directions for such help along; papers containing directions for such help would be doubly appreciated. It seems almost took good to be true, that Shuts-ins can come into touch with the outer world. I have passed all my days in the backwoods, which now seem a thousand times more drear.

"Will you admit into your happy band this morn-

"Will you admit into your happy band this morning one who comes humbly begging some little assistance from any one who feels able to help a poor suffering being? I have been afflicted many years and am only clinging to life now by what medicine I take. I am very, very poor as far as this world's goods are concerned, and my dear friends, you would think fir right hard, were you to see me propped up in bed plying my needle from morning till night, and going hungry all day long in order to make a few cents with which to buy medicine. There is a dear good doctor who furnishes me medicines very cheap and I have begged money from my friends up to this time to pay him. But alas! my good neighbors have done all they could for me, and I am now falling on the world's mercy for help. I have spent many an hour in earnest prayer to our dear Heavenly Father to open some

way for me to earn just barely enough to buy my medicine. I can do on but very little to eat myself, and God in His infinite love saw fit to take away my precious child. Oh what a trial to give up our wee toddling babe, but God saw it was best to take the sweet, innocent creature to His own bosom, for it will not be long till mama too will come. What a blessed thought that God so loved the world that He gave His only Son to suffer and die that we poor sinners might be saved! How many of the cousins will help a poor woman who has not long to live. Anything sent to Aunt Minerva will be forwarded. Mrs. W."

The following poem was sent to me by a friend in Montreal for this column. It is said to have been written by Ernest Von Willich at the age of 12 years, when he lay upon a sick bed from which he never rose again:

m:
When the Lord me sorrow sends
Let me bear it patiently,
Litting up my heart in prayer,
Comfort He will not deny.
Therefore let there come what will,
In the Lord my heart is still. In the Lord my heart is still.

Though the heart is often weak,
In despair and all forlorn,
When in days of utmost pain
Not a day of joy should dawn,
Tell it, let there come what will,
In the Lord my heart is still.

So I pray, oh Lord my God,
That my faith and hope may stand;
Then no care I know, nor need,
Gulded ever by Thy hand.
In the Lord my heart is still.
Is send my kindest regards and assu

Therefore let there come what will,
In the Lord my heart is still.

"May I send my kindest regards and assurance of bigh esteem to Aunt Minerva? The idea in the column of Sunshine and Sympathy for Sbut-Ins is as noble as it is novel. Some 2 years ago I buried a wife who for many years was a helpless invalid, but bore her trials with a serene patience and cheerful confidence which could have but one possible source. Her whole life was radiant with the divine beauty of an indwelling Christian spirit, and when the Angel of the Summons came, with a glad transfigured look, she took his hand, smiled and vanished from our sight. Aunt Minerva speaks feelingly to the Shutlins of the only true and adequate source of consolation, and when the seeker finds light, it will bring joy not sorrow to the lagging hours of pain and weakness. 'We must all go to school to trouble,' even the Captain of our Salvation, it is written 'was made perfect through suffering. Yours truly,

A. M. GOODNOUGH, Redding, Cal.''

I believe that I promised to begin a Birthday list this month, and I will explain the object of it, so that all may understand. Each one whose name appears on the list is one of Comport's Shut-Ins, and would like, on her birthday, to receive letters from the cousins, also little gifts, anything to make the day pleasant. These days are, to so many, painful angiversaries, reminders of another year of suffering; and let us all do what we can to cheer them. The special attention of King's Daughters and Sons is asked to this list, as well as to the one of those needing help. There is only one name this month, but more will soon follow.

COMFORT BIRTHDAY LIST.

Mary Whitaker Barfell, Lake Valley, New Mexico.

COMFORT BIRTHDAY LIST.

Mary Whitaker Barfell, Lake Valley, New Mexico Sept. 13.

Dear friends:—I am still a Shut-In, and these long warm days hang very heavily on my hands. I am go-ing to ask more of you to write to me, and send some reading matter If possible.

Thos. J. Bunten, Stump Knob, Tenn.

"Will you let me tell the dear friends how thankful my heart is to every one of them who sent me papers to read and letters full of kind words. Will be thankful to any one if they will send me scraps or thread to work with, for the only way that I can pass my time is to sit and work. I have been a helpless invalid all my life; but we all have work to do, even as was given to the angels when they sang "peace on earth and good will to men." I want you all to pray for me that I may be a shining light for Jesus' sake. Will you remember me In His Name, and write me a kind word, and may the dear Lord reward you is the prayer of your little sister in Christ.

MARGERT HAMIL, Floy, Ala.

Some friends have offered to send reading matter to

Some friends have offered to send reading matter to those who will pay postoge; I will give their addresses.

Nellie E. Matthews, Mobile, Tex.

L. J. Clark, Wiscoy, Minn.

E. Sherman, 61 Stamper St., Providence, R. I., (cancelled stamps.)

Tillie Tillman, Cambridge, Minn., "Golden Rule" and "Sabbath Reading" free to those sending address.)

Mrs. Sadie Davis. Woodlawn, Ga.

and "Sabbath Reading" free to those sending address.)
Mrs. Sadie Davis. Woodlawn, Ga.

"What a great word is Comfort! What a great and good paper is Comfort! Truly it has the right and proper name for no doubt it does bring cheer and comfort to many hundreds of thousands of homes into which it makes its monthly visits. How grateful we poor Shut-Ins are for the kindness extended us in having a corner set aside for our exclusive use and occupancy, where we can assemble together and relate our troubles and offer one another our condolence and sympathies. So let us do all we can to place this good paper into every household in the United States. I am 28 years of age; have practically been an invalid most all my life. During my childhood days I was confined to my room and kept my bed 1 year and 3 months. Since that time I recovered health and strength sufficient to study and learn the art of telegraphy, and have been enabled to work at the business some but have been unable to attend to business some but has 4 years. I think telegraphy one of the most pleasant and attractive of all other occupations. It is so nice to sit in an office and send and receive messages and read the constantly passing messages, and converse with operators over the wires. No doubt a good many readers of COMFORT would be glad to learn telegraphy or at least understand the mechanical working of the telegraph. I will gladly do all I can to assist you. I am poor and very destitute, and any aid however small would be thankfully received. I live in a lonely rural district and would like to receive many cheery and interesting letters.

Names of those needing aid, etc.:
Miss Mary Myers, 232 W. 24 St., Portsmouth, Ohio.

Names of those needing aid, etc.: Miss Mary Myers, 232 W. 2d St., Portsmouth, Ohio, Mrs. Annie Cox, Dothan, N. C., (reading matter es-pecially.)

Miss Jeffie D. Sample, McCalls Creek, Miss. Mrs. A. E. Ray, Thomas, Texas. J. E. B., Box 10, Potters Hollow, N. Y. Miss C. E. Williams, Box 23, Ruckersville, Va. Miss Julia Cole, Allen Springs, Ky.

With kindest wishes and sympathy. Your AUNT MINERVA.

CURED THE FAMILY. An invalid fellow named Green, Who many physicians had seen Who left him quite poor, Got a permanent cure By one little dose of OXIEN.

His wife who with sufferings keen
In torture a long time had been,
Obtained ease and relief
In a period brief
Through the aid of that bessing OXIEN. Her daughter—a girl named Irene— Was nervous and lanky and lean, Became plump and fat, And a beauty at that From the regular use of OXIEN.

And the son of the people I mean,
Who had just reached the age of nineteen,
Was of sleeplessness cured
And of sound sleep assured
By the magic effect of OXIEN.

At Factory Cost.

At Factory Cost.

A novel plan is that adopted by Cornish & Co., Washington, New Jersey, in their new catalogue. They have printed against each plano and organ cut the exact factory cost of each instrument, thus showing at a glance the exact amount one can save by purchasing of them. This handsome catalogue will be sent on application as is stated in their advertisement in this paper.

OOKS, Photos, Novelties, &c. Large Illustrated Catalogue for stamp. F. B. TEEL, Hurleyville, N. Y.

18 SQUARE
Satio, all stamped, suitable for Pin Cushions, Sachet, etc., sent for 10 cents silver.
MILLINER, Box X Augusts, Maine-

ACENTS \$12 PERY

AGENTS, TRY US I Address EAST INDIA CO.,

THIS OUT and return it to us or stamps, and we will insert your name in our Agent's Directory. You will get thousands of Papers, Cards, Magazines, Novelties, etc., from pub hishers and manufacturers who want agents. DON'T MISS THIS! WESTERN MAIL CO., St. Louis, Mo.

CATARRH CURED.

ok here, friend, do you suffer with Catarrh—are you stantly hawking and spitting—have you a running from to the Coryza Remedy Co., 2006—9th Ave. New York, and you will receive a recipe free of charge that will cure you of this dreadful disease.

A PRESENT.

SEND us your address and we will make you a present of the best Automatic WASHING.

MACHINE in the World. No wash-board or rub-bing needed. We want you to show it to your friends, or racts as agentify ou can. You can COIN MONEY. wash-board or rub 告 tifyou can, You can COIN MONEY & A HANDSOME WATCH to the heounty. Write quick. Address RY WORKS, 80 Murray Street

THE WORLD'S FAIR PUZZLE WHISTLE.

that every one that the price is 2 cents. Catalogue of guns, revolved gans, Magic Tricks, free.
BOSTON NOVELTY CO., Box 1540, BOSTON, MASS.



LOVELY FACES, WHITE HANDS.

Nothing will WHITEN and CLEAR the skin so quickly

Derma-Royale

The new discovery for dissolvery and and removing discolorations from the cuticle, and bleaching and brightening the complexion. In experimenting in the laundry with a new bleach for fine fabrics it was discovered that all spots, freekles, tan, and other discolorations were quickly removed from the bands and arms without the slightest injury to the skin. The discovery was submitted to experienced Dermatologists and Physicians who prepared for us the formula of the marvelous Dermatoyale. There never was anything like it. It is perfectly harmless and so simple a child can use it. Apply at night—the improvement apparent after a single application will surprise and delight you. It quickly dissolves and removes the worst forms of moth-patches, brown or liver spots, freckles, black-heads, blotches, sallowness, redness, tan and every discoloration of the cuticle. One bottle completely removes and cures the most aggravated case and thoroughly clears, whitens and beautifies the complexion. It has never failed—IT CANNOT FAIL. It is highly recommended by Physicians and its surresults warrant us in offering

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Put up in elegant style in large eight-ounce bottles, Price, \$1.00. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED

Derma-Royale sent to any address, safely packed and securely sealed from observation, safe delivery guaranteed, on receipt of price, 81.60 per bottle. Send money by registered letter or money order with your full post-office address written plainly; be sure to give your County, and mention this paper. Correspondence sacredly private. Postage sur-

AGENTS WANTED Send for Terms \$10 A DAY.

Address The DERMA-ROYALE COMPANY,
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AT HOME without a teacher, within 100 hours' study—from my book. YOU CAN! Price, \$3. J. H. GOODWIN, R312, 1215 B'way, NEW YORK.

For 30 Days. Wishing to introduce our Crayon Portraits and at the same time extend our business and make new ciktomers, we have decided to make this Special Offers Send us a Cabinet Picture, Photograph, Tintype, Ambrotype or Dagureotype of Yourself or any member of your family, living or dead and we will make you a CRAYON, FORTRAIT FREE OF CILARGE, provided you exhibit it to your friends as a sample of our work, and use your influence in securing us future orders. Place name and address on back of picture and it will be returned in perfect order. We make any change in picture CRAYON CO., Opposite New German Theatre, CHICAGO, ILL. P. S.—We will forfeit \$100 to anyone sending us photo and not receiving crayon picture FREE as per this offer. This offer is donafide.

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HAIR ON THE FACE, NECK, ARMS OR ANY PART OF THE PERSON
QUICKLY DISSOLVED AND REMOVED WITH THE NEW BOLUTION

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Manufacturers of the Highest Grade Hair Preparations.

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MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine

Do little girls and boys ever go up in a balloon? Oh yes, sometimes, and perhaps sometimes when they do not care to, as you will see later on, how it happened to two little boys. Most people would not take a sail in a balloon for anything; they say that it is dangerous. Yes, it would also be dangerous to get into a carriage to take a ride behind a high-spirited or fractious horse, with an unskilled driver, or on a railway train with an inexperienced engineer. In the hands of skilled persons there would be little danger in either case, and in ene no more than the other.

Now all little boys and girls, nor the older people, could take a sail in a balloon even if they wished to, because there are so few people who make a business of ballooning that they would not have a chance. And, it costs a great deal of money to make a large balloon and to fill it with gas already to go; in fact, a great deal more than it would to buy a good horse and carriage, not to say anything about the trouble. This is, perhaps, one of the reasons that we do not see more balloons than we do.

sons that we do not see more balloons than we do.

A balloon, as I said before, is very much like a high-spirited horse, very frisky sometimes, aspecially when there is a little wind; but let us proceed with our story, and see what some little girls and boys say, who have taken a ride in a balloon.

"I have made over nine ascensions in a balloon with my papa and sister," said Miss Mamie allen to a correspondent the other day. "I don't see any danger in it either." Miss Mamie and Rosie Allen, two bright young misses, who live with their parents, who are professional aeronauts living in Rhode Island, will talk by the hour of their experiences in balloon traveling, and as if there were no more risk in it than in playing a game of lawn tennis or cricket. They have been visiting cloudland with their father since they were three and five years of age, and have made over nine and five ascensions respectively. They say there is no sport or pleasure equal to it. The following accounts of two of their ascensions, related by Miss Mamie, may be interesting.

"My first ascension was made on a public holiday and from our city. Father had been engaged to give a balloon ascension as one of the attractions of the balloon to go up, we all, for there six of us, got into the large basket or car that is attached to the balloon, and while the people who had gather-ed to see used to see us

while the people who had gather-ed to see us were cheer-ing and the band play-

balleon did not remain long in sight to those below us, for the clouds were low and threatened rain, but in a few minutes we had passed up through them and were sailing along in sunshine and a clear sky above us. It was a beautiful sight and experience to us. Aside from the bright sky above and the dark clouds below, with a shadow of our balloon upon them, aside rom this we could see nothing more.

"We had a large fish horn that we blanks on ally, wondering what the sisjonally, wondering what the land the land

from this we could see nothing more.

"We had a large fish horn that we blew occasionally, wondering what the people below who heard it would think, for we could hear plainly the rumbling of trains and the whistles of the locomotives. It was very warm, being the latter part of June, and we had to fan ourselves to keep comfortable. After sailing along and enjoying this novel sport above the clouds for over two hours, and not once during this time getting a sight of the earth, papa let out some gas and we began to descend slowly through the clouds, landing safely in a field near a place called Cumberland Hill. A cow that was grazing near and seeing our big balloon, became so frightened that she ran into the woods, and as we learned afterwards, it was

three days before she could be induced to come out into the open pasture again.

"Of course it is more pleasant to go up on a day of course it is more pleasant to go up on a day of the then that you can see long distances. Such a day we were fortunate to get later on. It was o'clock in the afternoon when our party, which all the afternoon when our party, which ascended towards the sky. Everything below incoke beautiful. In passing over the Province of the course of the cour

A late cablegram to a New York daily in speaking of this subject says:

Of late, in fact, ever since the reports circulated of the arrival in Poland of large numbers of Russian troops several balloons, which came from the German frontier, have been seen hovering over the Russian fortresses and camps. These balloons are believed he: 0 to form part of an extensive German balloon spy service.

IN PLAIN SIGHT BUT OUT OF RANGE

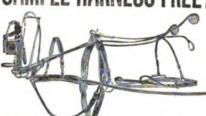
Recently a balloon was floating above the fortress at Kovno. So certain were the officers stationed there that the object of the balloonists was to learn military secrets that orders were given to fire upon the balloon.

Notwithstanding the long range of the modern rifle it was impossible to hit the balloon, which was at a very high attitude, and its occupants, by means of glasses, pursued their investigations entirely undisturbed by the bullets aimed in their direction.

A close watch was kept upon the balloon, and the watchers were surprised to find that it appeared to be under perfect control. After hovering about the fortress for no little time it returned to the German frontier, its occupants evidently having gained the knowledge they sought for.

WANTED—Salesmen; who can easily make twenty-five to seventy-five dollars per week, selling the Celebrated "Pinless Clothes Line," or the Famous "Macomber Fountain Ink Eraser"—Patents recently issued. Sold ONLY by salesmen, to whom we give Exclusive Territory. The Pinless Clothes Line is the only line ever invented that holds clothes without pins—a perfect success. The Macomber Fountain Ink Eraser is entirely new; will erase ink instantly, and is king of all. On receipt of 50c will mail you sample of either, or sample of both for \$1, with circulars, price-lists and terms. Secure your territory at once. Address THE PINLESS CLOTHES LINE CO., No. 121 Hermon St., Worcester, Mass.

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This is a regular \$20 harness but in order to introduce our goods and get agents working for the next 90 days, WE WILL SELL THER FOR \$6,87 and give ONE FREE to us with \$1 as a guarantee of good faith, and we will send the harness to you by express, c.O.D., subject to examination, and if you find it all we claim and perfectly satisfactory, you pay the express agent the balance \$8.74 and take the harness, OTHERWISE PAY NOTHING! When cash in full \$6.87 accompanies the order WE SEND FREE a genuine felt saddle pad, worth \$1. This single harness is made of genuine oak stock either in bright or black trimmings, with patent leather binds with either side or overchecks; heavy breast collar and patent leather saddle, and double and stitched traces. All parts are accurately made and sewed by experienced labor. If you wants harness or can sell one or wish to SELL SIX AND GET ONE FREE, oder immediately, this is your last chance to get a \$90 harness for \$6.87 as this ad will never appear again, address FLOUR CITY HARNESS COTIPANY, 222 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, Minnemention Comport.

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TASTELESS—EFFECTUAL DISORDERED LIVER

Taken as directed these famous Pills will rove marvellous restoratives to all enfeebled y the above or kindred diseases.

25 Cents a Box, but generally recognized in England and, in fact throughout the world to be "worth a guinea a box." for the reason that they WILL CURE a wide range of complaints, and that they have saved to many sufferers not merely one but many guineas, in doctors' bills. Covered with a Tasteless & Soluble Coating.

Of all druggists. Price 25 cents a box. New York Depot, 365 Canal St.

BLACK HEADS. FLESH WORMS

"MEDICATED CREAM" is the ONLY KNOWN, harmless, pleasant and absolutely SURE and infallible curs. It positively and effectively removes all, clean and completely in A FEW DAYS ONLY, leaving the skin A FEW DAYS ONLY, leaving the skin all the complete of th and hide blemishes. Mailed in a plain, sealed wrapper for 30c, by George N. Stoddard, Droggist, 1926 Niagara St., Buffa

QUE TOULS

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perform their proper functions. Persons given eating are benefited by taking one after each Price, by mail, 1 gross \$2: 1 bottle 16c. A RIPANS CHEMICAL CO., 10 Spruce St., Now Agents Wanted; EIGHTY per each per





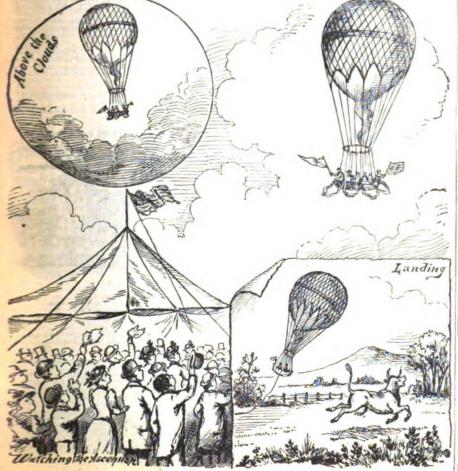
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all over the United States, and has conduced to make my house one of the most reliable and largely patronized in the country. MY GREAT OFFER: With your answer CUT OUT THIS ADY, and return with 10 cts. In silver for A GOLDEN BOX OF GOOS that will bring you in more money than anything else in America. Absolutely certainty. No capital required and suitable for either sex. This simply means that all get more than the value of their money, and in consonance with the terms of this offer you may Get one of These Heautiful Watches FREE and remember, I absolutely Give Away 100 these Handsome Watches. This is a boua-fide offer manufacturing from a thoroughly reliable house. Write your name and address plainly, and mail your 10 cts. In silver at once. W. S. SIMPSON, 37 College Place, N. Y. City,





Inc., and each one is tested to 300 LBS. DEAD WRIGHT.

Never before could such a broad be offered in the Hammock line. The regular price has always been from \$2.00 to \$5.00 for a good serviceable Hammock. We got them direct from an inland manuracturer, and secured a great lot to increase our subscription list as we knew by giving them away with our magazine Comfort it was the best way toget people to take Comfort:

Less Hammocks will LAST FOR YEARS; they are colored, and have very scrong white metal rings on the ends and large strong cord on the whole length of the sides, so there can be no giving away when you get nicely ensconced on Sunday afternoon. The average person weighs about one hundred to 150 lbs; these Hammocks will hold 300 lbs.

Outdoor life is very beneficial to our health. Many people can sleep in a Hammock and save reps. A picnic is incomplete without one or two. The price has always been so high that many people could not afford what seemed a luxury. You will find it a necessity to have one around, and won't part with it for ARY MONEY. We want agents to handle them; they can Make Money. So we make this big offer. We will send our monthly one year and the complete Hammock, paying all express and mailing charges, if you enclose only \$1.00 for the outfit. This chance to secure one so cheap will only be open for a short time, and we advise all to accept at once. They are suitable for men, women and children, and the like of this was never known. We make this offer to introduce for next season. Order yours at once! Now! enclose only \$1.00 for the lammock free as a premium.



Y DEAR YOUNG FOLKS:
School is almost over, and I suppose you are all glad that the vacation time is so near. It is pleasant to exchange the four walls of the school-room for the freedom of the beautiful outside world, when the birds and the flowers and the fresh, sweet air, all seem to be inviting us to come out and be happy with them. And yet, after all, as we who are older look back on our past experiences and pleasures—foremost among them in deep enjoyment seem to us to have been, not so much the vacation seasons, but the hours spent with our books. To be sure we must all have our times of rest and recreation. It is a fact, too, proven by experience that those peoples or nations that do not take recreatory pleasures are enfeebled and puny. This is especially evident to one who is familiar with the history of the Chinese, or to such as have lived in certain districts of California. The failure to observe Sunday brings with it very appreciable penalties. It is, however, quite a safe rule for us to make, that consistent occupation will be a greater source of enjoyment to us than extra long vacations. The old adage that "An idler's brain is the Devil's work-

A LITTLE SUMMER SHOWER.

THEIR FIRST EXPERIENCE.



WHAT IS IT?

shop" is only too true. The school-room is the place in which we may best fit ourselves for the hard battless of after life. Let us love the place. Let us peruse ungrudgingly our books for the principles and foundation which will inevitably do much to determine the success or failure of our after life.

dation which will inevitably do much to determine the success or failure of our after life.

This is rather heavy advice for my little folks, but you will grow to it, my dears, and don't let it weigh on your minds while you are making mud-pies and playing tag this summer!

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a boy 13 years old. I am trying to be a Christian. I am getting a collection of Indian relies, minerals and sea-shells, and should be glad to hear from cousins that can send me any of these things. I will pay postage on all things that are curiosities and nice for a cabinet. I have been taking Comfort for about a year and hope to take it next year. My father is a contractor and builder. Kewanee is a town of about 5,000 inhabitants, is 131 miles from Chicago. The Western Tube company is here. There are three public schools here and the Catholics are going to build a school this spring. Good-bye dear Aunt Minerva! Your nephew,

Russell Neville. P. O. Box 380, Kewanee, Ill.

This letter shows a laudable ambittion on the part

RUSSELL NEVILLE, F. O. Bod soo, Revanee, Fi.

This letter shows a laudable ambition on the part
of the writer and any who can, would do well to assist him in making such an interesting collection.
Master Russell will do well to have some text-book
simply and briefly written, and study his minerals as
he collects them.

simply and briefly written, and study his minerals as he collects them.

"Having planned an excursion to the mountains, my father and I started off one bright Thursday morning, and after riding about 3 hours and a half we got to Mauch Chunk. That was the place where the excursion went. When we got off the train the first thing that attracted our attention was the Switch Back, and we thought we would go over it before we got any dinner and then we could get a good seat. After climbing a pretty steep hill we got to the station and got the front seat. When the car was full, it started off, and as it was nearly all a gravity road, the car run to the foot of the mountain called Mount Pisgah, and there a pusher came up behind the car and pushed it up the mountain; there were 2 tracks, and when a car was going up one, a pusher would come down another. The pushers were operated by a stationary engine at the top of the mountain. As soon as the top was reached, the car started by gravity again and ran slowly over a bridge that spanned a hollow place at the top of the mountain. When it got over the bridge the brakeman let it go a bit faster and we went down the mountain at a pretty good speed. We were soon at the bottom of the mountain and hen the car was pushed up another mountain called Mount Jefferson. When the top of that was reached, off we went again and soon reached a



GOOD GRACIOUS! IT'S COMING IN.

sold Gracious: IT's comine in.

Village called Summit Hill. There a stop was made so that the passengers could spend a bit of time walking around. Father and I started off to see the burning coal mines, but when we were nearly there, father thought that the best way would be to go back and get the front seat again, and then go to Glen Onoko. So we started off and got the front seat and waited. I began looking around to see what there was. While doing so, I noticed a big stone. Now there was nothing unusual in that, as there was a lot flarge stones strewn around; but what attracted me was a flower that would shake in a funny way, and as there was no wind and nobody around, there was no cause for it. When I enquired, no one knew, so I started off to investigate and find out for myself. When I was nearly that the control surprise to

behold the stone, big as it was, get up and walk off, leaving me there looking dumb. Now what do you think the stone was? It was no less than a pig that had been amusing itself rolling in the mud till it was the color of the mud itself and then lay down to take a nap. The pig's ear tickled, so he kept shaking it, and that in turn shook the flower. I had found out what it was, so I started back to the car, only to find myself the laughing stock of all that were in the car at the time. I was not so extra curious after that, I can tell you. This happened 6 years ago, but I remember it as clearly as fit it had happened last week. When father and I went there again, last year, he said, 'I wonder if the stone is caten up yet?' I said, guessed it was a pretty good porker for Thanksgiving.

FRED COTSHOTT, Philadelphia, Pa."

"This letter is very amusing and will show all the

"This letter is very amusing and will show all the young folks how easy it is to get deceived. Never be too sure, or too curious and venturesome! But if you have not an inquiring turn of mind, a great many interesting things will escape your observation.

I am not forgetting the very little ones, and here is a letter from one of them, all so nicely printed.

"I am a little boy 5 years old. Mama takes your paper, and I like the cousins' letters very much. I can read, spell, count to 100, and write a little, but mama thought I had better print this. For pets I have a cat and a chicken. Success to the paper and good luck to all. Lyman Bixbe, Rood House, Ill."
You are a smart little fellow, Lyman, to be able to

You are a smart little fellow, Lyman, to be able to read, spell, and count, at your age. I hope you wil write me another nice letter some time.

write me another nice letter some time.

Dear Aunt:—I thought I would write again. I watched a little bird build her nest the other day. Pa says I watched her too much, she never came back any more. There are so many pretty birds singing in the trees; they seem to say, "Little maiden, this is spring." I saw a humming-bird this morning, but I could not catch him; he was among the wild flowers. You ought to see the wild flowers we have here; they cover the prairie, they nod to you by the roadside, and peep at you from under the hedges. The lovely roses are now in full bloom, and wheat harvest is at hand. I am glad that there is such a place as Augusta. Maine, for that is the home of COMFORT.

Mound Valley, Kans.

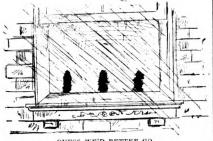
I should like to see the pretty wild flowers, Jennie;

I should like to see the pretty wild flowers, Jennie; we do not have as many in Maine. In the spring we have dog-tooth violets and the real violets, white, yellow and blue, arbutus, hepaticas, anemones, beliworts, bluets and some others.

worts, bluets and some others.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a new subscriber to your paper, and enjoy the cousins' letters very much. I live in the Old North State in a thriving little manufacturing town, situated on the C. & L. R. R., and near the banks of Maiden Creek from which it derives its name. There is one cotton factory in this place, one about a half mile from here, and another large one being built here. There is also I church, 3 dry goods stores, I drug store, I furniture shop, I blacksmith shop and I butcher shop in the place. I am 15 years old, and would like to correspond with some of the cousins about my age. I prefer to hear from Northern and Western States. Your niece.

PEARL C. GALL, Maiden N. C.



These and other letters before me are all good and full of interest. We will have no more room for letters in this column at this time but will let you hear more at another time. Wishing you all the greatest joy possible to your young lives.

Your affectionate,

AUNT MINERVA.

Indigestion, Dizziness. Take Beecham's Pills

MOUSTACHE, 10,000 use ELECTROLINE, the great lururant MOUSTACHE; a beautiful head of HAIR in shortest worthern possible. Sufficient guaranteed. Don't warm worthern possible a Sufficient guaranteed. Don't warm worthern profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the profession was a sufficient price for warming and the pr

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The above Rebus is an OLD SAYING, familiar to every one. WHAT IS 1T? We will give to the first person from whom we receive the correct answer on or before August 31st, 182, 8100.00 IN OLD. To the second, 850; to the third, 825; to the next five persons, a Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 16 Yards in black, blue, green, brown or gray. To the next 10a Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Riag, and to the next 15 sending in the correct answer, 85 each. To the person from whom we receive the last correct answer, we will give \$100 IN GOLD, to the next to the last \$50, to the next \$25, the next5a Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 16 Yards in one of above colors, to the next a Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Ring, and to the next 15 (should there be so many sending in correct answers) \$5 to each. We prepay all shipping charges on presents, and send in accordance with this offer on the same day the answer is received. All answers must be sently mail. With your answer this offer on the same day the answer is received All answers must be sent by mall. With your answer send us 25c in sliver or 30c in stamps for a vial of Jr. Hobb's LITTLE VEGETA BLE Pills.

TAKEAPILL. THE MEMBER, you

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DEBASE AT US BEEF OF THE SEAR OF THE BETT OF THE SEAR OF THE SEAR

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ANSWER TO-DAY: EFA SPECIAL prize
will be given for the FIRST correct answer received
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\$15.00 Buys a Gent's Gold-Filled (STEM WIND) WATCH (DUST PROOF) OPEN FACE) WATCH (COMPLETE) with Elgin or Waltham Movement. Guar-anteed to wear 15 years. Sent C. O. D., with privilege of examination before paying for same Address

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C. R. BLAKELY,

Bradford, McKean Co., Pa.

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RUNKENNESS LIQUOR HABIT. DR. HAINES' GOLDEN SPECIFIC.

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I have a positive remedy for the above disease; by its use thousands of cases of the worst kind and of long standing have been cured. Indeed so strong is my faith in its efficacy, that I will send TWO BOTTLES FREE, with a VALUABLE TREATISE on this disease to any sufferer who will send me their Express and P.O. address.

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HERE YOU ARE BOYS!

THIS ... GRAND FISHERMAN'S QUTFIT



We have here gotten together the whole thing in a mit that A low price complete outfit in a box ready to be sent by main anywhere. FREE of further expense.

It has used to be remarkable both this champles outfit it is champles outfit in the property of t

It has never been attempted BEFORE. Read the descriptions carefully.

NO. 1. ONE BRIGHT METAL REEL. This is a perfect rect, works well and when attached to the pole will wind any line in first-class style. No click.

NO. 2. ONE LINES TROUTE. Guarantee to the pole will wind the perfect rect.

So that the perfect rect was a perfect of the perfect of t trolling from boat.

ONE LONG COTTON LINE. Dark colored.
ss-wound on a block, and good for every-day fishing

nicely cross-wound on a block, and good for every-day fishing and speech, eather surfash, rock bass, etc.

WITH HOOK BOB, AND SINKER, The is a whale outfit in itself, comprising a jong and strong line with medium size hook attached and neat movable bob and sinker. With bait at hand and this line in his pocket the fisherman can starticht in and try his lack.

right in and trv his luck.

No. 6. @ ONE DOZEN BEST
FISH HOOKS (assorted sizes). These are best grade
of hooks, warranted strong, sharp in points and barks, and
handy to use, anybody being able to the their line into the rap
of the hook. With this set of hooks the fisherman can try his e noor. With this set of hooks the fisherman cân try be for any size fish from minnows to weak fish. 7. TWO IMPORTED TROUT FLIES. They draw trout from deep pools when other fises fail. They are all, brilliant in colors, strongly fastened around the best. 8. ONE IMPROVED BASS FLY. For black fishing, and is the equal of the trout fly in excellence of rial.

material.

No. 9. ONE IMPROVED SALMON FLY a. so accessed in the outfit, and is of the best pattern and perfect shape.

Companies the outfit, and is of the best pattern and perfect shape and color outfit and is of the best pattern and perfect shape and color outfit of the shape and lands the ston long guts, and where fish cut the lines, one of these well hooks can be safely used, the gut cannot be severed and lands the fish every time.

Here then is a complete Fisherman's outfit at the mental price of half a dollar. No excuse now; any man or bey in either city or county can alord this complete assortment, and outfit for color of the shape of the shape

WE PAY EXPRESS CHARGES.

we ask you need not pay one cent, otherwise pay the express agent \$6.00 and the watch is yours. The movement is a full fewel-can style level, extrain 1800 beats) without tempered Pinion and Hair spring. It is a durable and accurate time keeper, The case is made of composition metal over which is plates soil 44k Gold. This watch you have the credit ong a soil 49k Gold. This watch you have the credit ong a soil dig fold watch and for use is just as des state which wanted Ladies or Gents size also you and express office. If you send full amount (56 or creder we will send by reg. mail and include a gold-chain which would cost you nearly the price of wa

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Sample Box Henry Clay Cirars and Gold Plated Gold Plated C.O.D. \$8.00. This offer is made to introduce our Cigars. The watch is the celebrated Manhattan and sold under their guarantee. Full privilege of examination allowed, and if not satisfied return goods at our expense. Order samples at once-Agents wanted. Sumatra Tobacco Co., Marion, Ohlo.

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d. Suma-on, Ohlo.

COMFORT when you write.



Y DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:
Here I am again, and my heart is filled with
joy as I greet you once more at Comfort's
Realm where you gather each month to meet
the old man from "Mystic Land," who journeys forth from his ancient home with staff
in one hand and a large mystic grip-sack in
the other. Many of you who have not gathered with
us before, no doubt would like to know what that
peculiar grip-sack contains. Listen, while he tells
you.

us before, no doubt would like to know what that peculiar grip-sack contains. Listen, while he tells you.

Perplexing puzzles from his Mystic Friends, letters, solutions and many other things pertaining to "Madame Sphinx's Realm," are to be found therein. And do you know, dear friends, every reader of Components is invited to contribute towards the contents of that grip-sack. You will find it a pleasant and instructive pastime, making and solving puzzles; if you are a novice in the art, just study carefully the "Mysteries" below, and it will not be long before you will be able to contribute some puzzles and solutions of your own for publication. Remember to address your letters to Oldcastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y., and sign name and address as well as nom de plume every time you write. Then too, there are some nice prizes offered each month for solving. Try to win one! Do not get discouraged if you cannot solve all the puzzles; but send what you do get, be it a single solution.

We heartily welcome the new recruits who come forward this month and hope they may abide with us for many months to come. We have jolly times, tangling and untangling the "Intricate Knots," don't we, Mystic Friends? and we want to add to our enjoyment all we can. Oldcastle is making arrangements to have a new departure in the puzzle line of the "Mystic Castle," and the September number will be known as the "Square issue." Each one of "Our Mystic Band" is invited to contribute an original square puzzle for this issue, and the best ones will be published. Also, a nice prize will be awarded to the author of the best short article (not to exceed two hundred words) concerning the "square." Contributions must be received prior to Aug. I, and should be marked "For the square issue." If this contest proves interesting, others will follow on the various square puzzle for this issue, and the best ones will be awarded to the author of the best short article (not to exceed two hundred words) concerning the "square." Contribution of the paper, only.

Lucie.
Incompletes:—Tyro, A. F. B., Beb, Roland, Ben Net and J. C. M., 6; Nettie Simon, Nuisance, 5; Pat Riot and Phil, 4; Audax, F. I. Dont, Columbia, Thinker, Josie Bourjal and Eugene, 3; Rosebud, R. O. Chester, Lucile, G. Whizz and I. Stenidler, 2; Apollo, Fancy and C. E. Bechtel, 1.
Prize winners:—I. Doc. 2. Waldemar. 3. Aspiro. Specials:—I. Apollo, 2. Roland, 3. Miss Josie Bourjal.

Specials:—1. Apollo. 2. Roland. 3. Miss Josie Bourjal.

No. 296, C. E. Bechtel.

We would be pleased to hear from A. F. Holt and other masters of the "form" puzzles, and receive contributions from them for our "square issue."

I have dealt out a generous supply of puzzles for your study this time and must chat no longer, else some may be crowded out. Hoping to have you all co-operate to make our "square issue" one long to be remembered in the annals of Puzzledom, as a bright, entertaining feature of "The Mystic Castle," I take my footsteps homeward.

Your dear old Mystic Friend, Oldcastle.

SOLUTIONS TO MARCH MYSTERIES. No. 283. "A soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger."

No. 290.

C A P O T E

A Z U R E S

P U P I L S

O R I O L E

T E L L E R

E S S E R A

No. 291. A E D I L E E R O D E S D O Z E N S I D E A T E L E N T E N E S S E N E

No. 294. H
JET
PASHA
JASPERS
HESPERIAN
THERMAL ARIAN

No. 295. Help-meet. No. 296. 1. most, ost, mos os.
2. yama, ama, yam, am.
3. span, pan, spa, pa.
4. ting, ing, tin, in.
5. idol, dol, do.
6. cone one con. on. 6. cone, one, con, on. "Mystic Tangle."

No. 297. Unnoticed, continued.

M I S T L E S I N T R A N T S T R A N G E T R A C T O R L A N T E R N E N G O R G E S T E R N E R

MYSTERIES. No. 317. Numerical.

My whole, composed of 28 letters, is a familiar quotation from Pope.
My 13, 6, 19, 27, 1, 21, 15, 22 is a gift or grant.
My 5, 2, 14, 11, 2, 26 is movement in musical time.
My 10, 24, 17, 7, 3, 9 is a conceited smile.
My 25, 4, 18, 28, 20 is to slap, or to move quickly.
My 16, 18, 12, 23 is strife.
Worcester, Mass.,

Doc.

No. 318. Numerical.

The 8, 4, 10 is a most useful fluid.
The 5, 9, 22, 18, 25 is an instrument of punishment.
The 13, 15, 3, 16, 7 is a metal frame.
The 25, 1, 12, 20, 2 is a bitter plant.
The 19, 22, 23, 20, 6 is to awaken.
The 21, 17, 14, 11, 24 is a piece of furniture.
The whole, composed of 25 letters, is the title of a book by a famous American author.
Eureka, Cal.

ALWAYS

No. 319. Charade.

My FIRST is dressed in various shades, And likes my SECOND well; My SECOND flies at sight of first, As from some danger fell.

As from some danger fell.

My SECOND lives in many climes,
in every zone 'tis found;
Sometimes upon the highest cliff.
Sometimes upon the ground.

My WHOLE is small; of no great fame;
But likes the garden well;
It moves about and makes a noise,
Its name, now, who can tell?

Richmond, Va.,

JOAN OF ARC. No. 320. Crossword.

In cat not in dog,
In carry not in tote;
In vapor not in fos,
In rampart not in moat;
In eagle not in condor,
In muse not in ponder;
In source not in mouth,
Whole, a tree that grows down South.
Ocala, Florida,

No. 221. Crossword.

No. 321. Crossword.

No. 321. Crossword
In money not in cash,
In sudden not in rash;
In praise not in sing,
In scatter not in fling;
In choose not in sort,
In mirth not in sport;
In thought not in care,
In courage not in dare;
In sober not in demare,
My whole, you will find is "pure."
Ypsilanti, Mich.,

YPSIE.

COWBOY.

ESSAY.

TAKE I TO SEE THOSE

No. 322. Rebus.

Park Side, Ills., No. 323. Rebuses.

2. A M & A. Brunswick, Ga. LIVE OAK. No. 324. Numerical.

8, 5, 2, 10

"A violent assault of temptation" find; But 'tis very rare, please bear in mind. 4, 6, 9, 11, 3, 11, we next adduce,
"A mass designed for a special use."
Now, if the solver does his duty, He'll find the answer, 'moral beauty."
Etna, Ohio,

No. 225 Numerical

No. 325. Numerical.

The whole, composed of 14 letters, pertains to gin-

ger.
The 1, 2, 3, 10 is a metal.
The 4, 5, 3, 10, 12, 13, 14 is electro-positive.
The 6, 7, 9, 8 is a wild quadruped of the genus Ursus.
The 11, 9, 8 is attention.
Seaton, Oregon,
Nuisance. No. 326. Charade.

No. 326. Charade.

As FIRST in the SECOND went gliding away,
O'er the waters so smooth of the beautiful bay;
His sweetheart on shore stood smiling and bland,
And this she did say as she waved her white hand,
"Come back my dear FIRST soon as ever you can,
Bring plenty of SECOND, I'll have ready the pan,
For the sake of our stomachs, I beg you'll make
haste,
And a good fry of whole will just suit our taste."
Providence, R. I.,

No. 327. Diamond.

No. 327. Diamond.

No. 527. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A small mouthful. 3. Articles of merchandise. 4. Severe in language. 5. Told in the ear. 6. One who peruses. 7. Young herrings. 8. A chariot of war. 9. A letter.

Poultney, Vt., GUARDINEER.

No. 328. Diamond.

I. A letter. 2. A Hebrew. 3. Pertaining to a house. 4. Charged in debt. 5. A plant of the genus Coix. 6. An intermittent compound. 7. Divide between two river basins. 8. Skin. 9. That which has the quality of drying. 10. Cohesive. 11. A letter from Thinker.

Norris City, Ills.,

No. 329. Numerical.

No. 329. Numerical.

The 1, 5 is an interjection.
The 3, 8, 25, 32 is a dog.
The 7, 9, 23, 25, 2 is an ear of corn.
The 4, 11, 18, 21, 32 is a clan.
The 6, 14, 15, 20, 16 is an odorous plant.
The 10, 19, 27, 17, 6 is a kind of weasel.
The 26, 29, 17, 22, 2 is a trap.
The 28, 30, 22, 5, 13, 32, 31 is a small whole.
The 12, 16 is an interjection.
The whole, composed of 32 letters, is a quotation rom Fuller.
White Lake S. Tab.

White Lake, S. Dak., O. B. SERVER.

No. 330. Epenthesis. Mary had a little lamb, and of it she was PRIME; But one fine day it wandered away, as it had many a time. It happened that the tender lamb made a wolf a re-

past, So you see, Mary's little lamb was lost and never LAST.

Grafton, Ills., No. 331. Charade.

No. 331. Charade.

My First the loveliest month of all the year,
When fragrant flowers and singing birds appear.
During my First, for my SECONDS you may look,
Upon each sunny hillside, and in the leafy nook.
My WHOLE, a vessel staunch and true
Across the ocean bore an exile crew,
To plant on wild New England shore,
The tree of freedom, forever more.
Providence, R. I.,

MARION STEVENS.

No. 332. Hexagon.

1. A polishing material made of potter's clay that has failed in baking. 2. One of a group of N. A. Indians. 3. The wild ox of Java. 4. Incited to action. 5. An order of Italian monks. 6. Truly. 7. Prevalent. 8. To carry abroad, (obs.) 9. Young herrings. New Chester, Pa., CASTRANOVA.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

For the best list of answers to this month's "Mysteries," A Floroscopic Microscope; for the next best, Payne's Business Pointers; for the third, Carl's Treasure Cabinet.

Specials:—1. Multum in Parvo Songster. 2. One year's subscription to Comport.

Contest closes Aug. 1, 1892. Solutions, solvers and prize-winners will be announced in September "Mystic Castle."

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Do you suffer from Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Liver Compiaint, Nervousness, Lost Appetite, Billiousness, Exhaustion or Tired Feeling, Pauns in Chest or Lungs, Dry Cough, Night Sweats, Nervous Debility or any form of Consumption? If so, send to Prof. Hart, S8 Warren St., New York, who will send you free, by mail, a bottle of medicine which is a sure cure. Send to-day.



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If you have any or all of these symptoms, send 40 cents to me, and I will send you, postpaid, some simple and harmless powders pleasant to the yand effectually on may be. Ever have suffered from these causes more than I, and fewer still at my age (58) are in more perfect health than I am now. The same means will cure you.

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1 Script Alphabet 23 in, high.
1 Forget-me-not alphabet 24 in, high.
1 Forget-me-not alphabet 24 in, high.
1 Ispray Clover.
1 Ispray Clover

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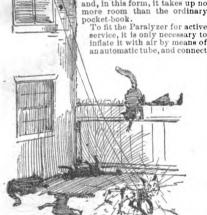
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According to the latest official report, nine and three-quarter acres of space will be devoted to the display of electrical discoveries, at the coming World's Fair. Among the thousand and one weird, wild and wonderful inventions which will astonish the natives, in this interesting field of scientific discovery, none will perhaps attract more popular attention than the ingenious little infernal machine which is here correctly kodaked. It is called the "Kinsabby Cat Paralyzer," and is the latest thing out. It is the discovery of a man who has suffered; and, unlike other inventions which are offered to the public for revenue only, the Paralyzer is gotten up purely for Comfort. The device consists of an artificial cat made of catnip-tanned Skiangaloris skin, and is operated by a vest-pocket battery specially designed for this novel purpose. The outfit is so constructed as to admit of its being rolled up and carried in the pocket when not in use, and, in this form, it takes up no more room than the ordinary pocket-book.

To fit the Paralyzer for active earlyies it is only necessary to

service, it is only necessary to inflate it with air by means of an automatic tube, and connect



it with the fatal current. It can be placed on a war footing in less than seven seconds, and goes about its death-dealing work in as quiet a manner as could be desired by the most humane Christian.

The execution of condemned criminals by electricity, in New York, is what first suggested the thing to the author, who otherwise is a perfectly modest, harmless, and law-abiding citizen. He feels that he has not only invented a l'aralyzer that paralyzes, but that he has discovered that kind of "protection which protects" and which will carry grateful relief to millions of weary, wakeful hearts.

For simplicity of construction, ease of manipulation, and absolute destructive powers, the device will prove, he believes, the very ne plus ultra of human happiness, and fill a long-felt want. A child can operate the Paralyzer with the same surprising results achieved by a giant. Such are its elements of toughness, elasticity, and strength, that neither use, climate, nor atmospheric changes can affect its efficacy; and, being provided with the patent Edison equipoise attachment, it may be sprung on the enemy in any position and from any height without the least danger of throwing it out of kilter, as it were. It retains its perfect equilibrium under all conditions; and though it may turn a double backward summersault in mid-air, it is bound to land upon its feet all ready for action the moment it strikes bottom. Being strongly impregnated with the odor of catnip, its presence quickly attracts the enemy; and by a slight pressure on the "button" by the operator, its very breath becomes the venom of a vampire, and bodily contact with it means instantaneous death. A gentleman from Kokomo, Indiana, who travels for a soap house, writes that he has tested the Paralyzer on every variety of cat, from the plain, every-day Thomas who nightly leads the backyard orchestra, and the mild-mannered Kennebunk coon kitten, to the Wyoming wood puss or prairie queen, and that it has never failed to give entire satisfaction. He adds that in actio

iar tidings of comfort and joy.

"CITIZEN" wants to know if the cucumber in its raw state is healthy, and whether it is a fruit or a vegetable. We consider the cucumber one of the healthiest blessings we have. Nothing that wears peel or pelt, hair or hide, fin or feather, is liable to fewer diseases. It is truly a genuine June joy from way-back. It often happens that its youthful vigor gets tangled up with the interior mechanism of man, and makes him feel as though he had swallowed a torchlight procession; but in all such cases it is the citizen that is unhealthy, and not the cucumber.

As to whether the cucumber is a fruit or a vegetable, we wish to say that it is neither. It is an animal. We believe that it has eight hind legs, and that it is born with chronic insomnia and a desire to kick.



this is not going to be true in the future. With the Hartmann system, the roosts of the chicken-coop will consist of brass poles, and some seven or eight inches above each pole there will be a wire. The roost will be connected with one pole of an electric battery, and the wire with the other. Ordinarily the fowls will only touch the roost; but when an ill-advised cock puts up his head to crow, and thereby betray some innocent married man, his crest will touch the wire, which will complete the circuit, and he will receive a shock which will cause him to sit down and ponder on the marvels of modern invention. The Tranquillizer can be applied at small cost, and no well-regulated family in the Hentown districts should be without it.

A CLEVER young miss named Mumford, Who lives on a farm near Rumford, In a trap caught two owls, And sent these wiss fowls To Aunt Minerva, in care of Comfort.



to her heart a keen personal sorrow. Eleven years ago she sat in this same depot, she said, with a young man from Hohekus, New Jersey, whom she was to marry that very day. Under the promise of getting some peanuts for her, he had excused himself for a moment, but had boarded a Canada train, and shamefully deserted her.

As fate would have it, before the listener could utter a word of consolation, the railroad newsboy, who knows every popular comic song by heart, passed the open door singing the latest music-hall craze, "He'll Never Come Back;" and as the plaintive refrain, consisting of a repetition of these sad words, met the ears of the stricken woman, it proved the last cruel stab to her wounded heart, and not only did she lose all control of herself, but her would-be comforter was also moved to bitter tears. The situation, which had now become uncomfortably solemn, grewhighly dramatic when the child frantically tugged at its mother's skirts, and tearfully begged to be taken "home to papa," while the canary bird sounded its shrillest notes in a vain attempt to drown out the



nance. Men were not half as black as they were painted, she remarked. It was often the woman's fault. She herself had been happily married three times, was the happy mother of nine children, and would marry again if — But the rest of her sermon



was fatally interrupted by the young bride's rushing to the door hysterically screaming "Help! help! or shall escape!" and landing plump in the arms of the conductor, just as he looked in to shout "All aboard!"

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To Our Readers.

To Our Readers.

The July issue of Comfort will be a special souvenir number and will alone be worth more than the price at which we are now accepting subscribers for a whole year. Every man, woman and child will want to preserve forever the twenty-four lifelike "faces in feathers" which among other things will embellish the prize title-page. A corps of the best artista engravers and writers will unite in making the issue worthy of the "Day We Celebrate." It will be one of the most unique and entertaining papers ever published. Among other features there will be a full-page article on Australia by Mr. Harold Kinsabby, whose humorous sketches, which appeared exclusively in our May and June issues, are but specimens of the good things to come in this department of Comfort. This article, which will knew sappear only in our columns, will be splendidly illustrated with scenes from the Wonderland of the Southern Hemisphere engraved from photographs and curiosities in the possession of the author. This holiday number will also contain much original matter of special interest to ladies, including Happy Hints on Home Dressmaking, Sensible Suggestions for Summer, Aunt Minerva's Chats, illustrated short stories and other seasonable matter which will be highly enjoyed by all. We are determined that every number of Comfort, shall be a great improvement upon its predecessor and go laden with more "tidings store" fort and joy" to the million.

And we begonce more to call special attention to the fact that now is the time for those to subscribe who wish to get a whole year's "Comfort."

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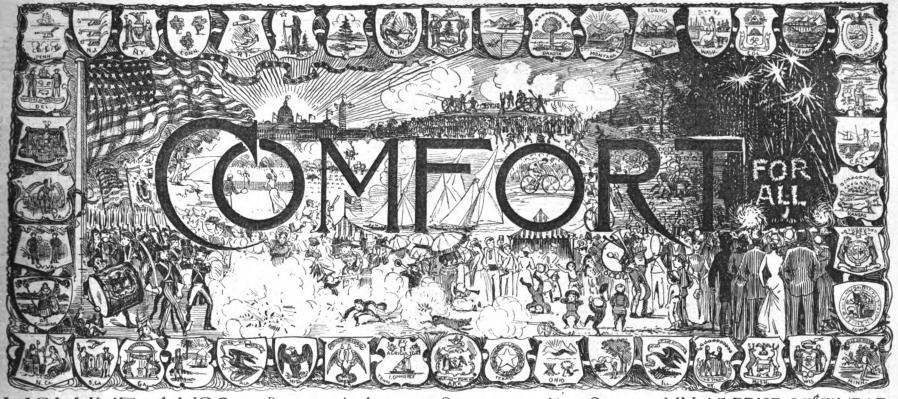
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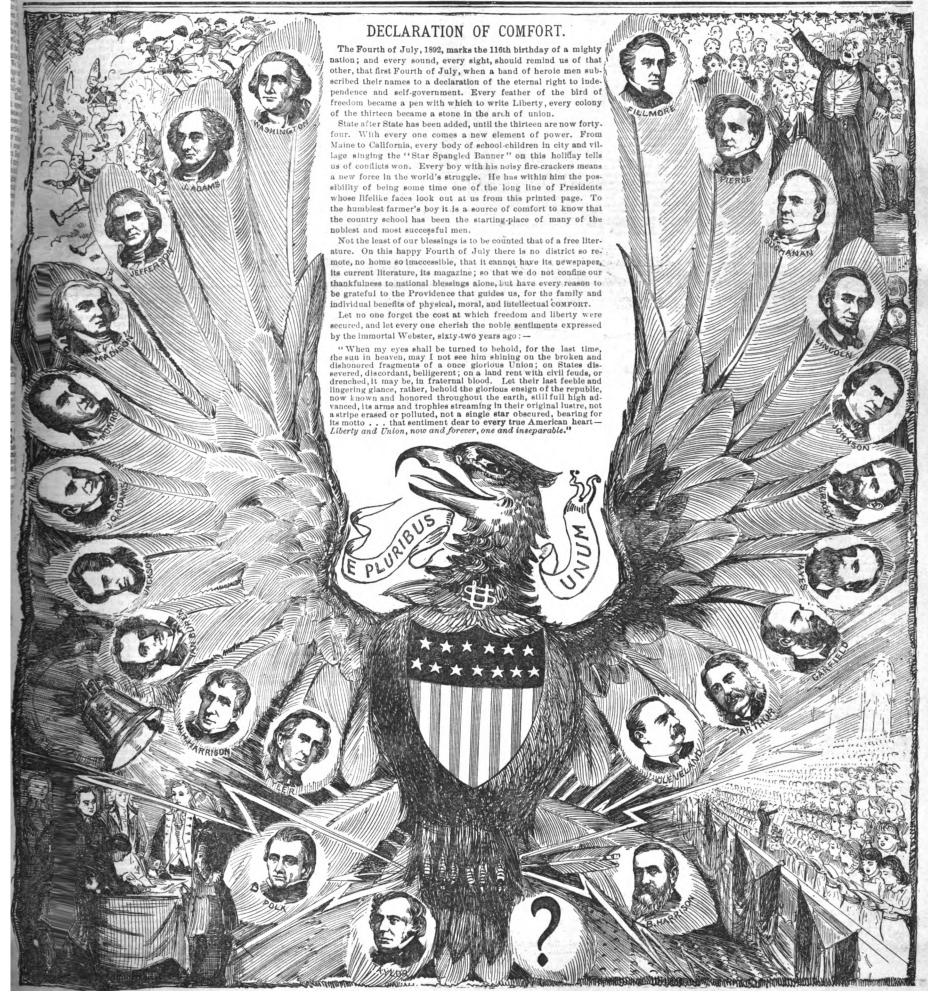
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-JULY 1892-

By MORSE & CO. AUGUSTA ME.





Don't, don't kill me," the man cried

THE FLIGHT OF RICHARD BERING.

BY MCKENDREE BANGS.

SYNOPSIS.

SYNOPSIS.

Michael Bering starts one evening to call upon his brother Richard and nephew, Richard Jr. Just before reaching the house, sees Richard Jr. leave in great haste; thinking there has been a family quarrel which is not infrequent, he returns home only to be summoned shortly to go to the house of his brother who has been murdered. Mary Irving, the ward of Richard's r. is there mourning the loss of her friend. She hates Michael and has very short conversation with him. Richard's will is opened, which discloses the fact that Michael and Richard Jr. are to be joint executors. Richard Sr. and his son quarreled because the young man wants to marry Mary Irving, and on the evening of the murder they were alone in the library, and Richard Sr. wants Mary to have other suitors in order to be able to select a husband; Richard Jr. leaves room in anger, and meets Mary in hall, he tells her his father's wishes, and she asks:

"Is he going to bring these men here, or must I seek them, these men I must choose among?" In time the detectives felt sure that Richard Jr. had embarked on a sailing vessel for San Francisco. Soon a verdict was rendered charging Richard Jr. with the crime. Michael Bering was very attentive to Mary Irving, he offers to reinvest her fortune. She often went to ride with Michael and found the drives very pleasant and thanks him for kindness to her.

"I am very glad to have been of some use to you," he said as he took his leave. Richard Jr. on discovering the body of his father starts at once in pursuit of murderer; tracks him to a cellar in a side street where, upon entering, he is struck on the head with a club and knocked senseless. Mary Irving quarrels with Michael Bering and one evening when he goes to the house to bother her with his attentions he found her gone. He did not fear that she had met with an accident. He knew intuitively that she had gone to escape him.

CHAHTER VI.

THE CELLAR.

S the man pursued by Richard ran into the cellar on that night a man already there looked at him in astonishment.

"What's the matter, Jack?" he asked abtruptly.

ruptly.
"I—I had an accident."
"Yes, he came in on me, and I hit him."
"Hit whom?"
"The old man."

"Ine old man."
"Did you hurt him? Come, out with it all. Did
to kill him?"

you kill him?"
"I think so. The young fellow followed me; but I gave him the slip at the corner."
At that moment Richard Bering stumbled into the cellar and Jack's companion struck him at once with a heavy piece of wood he picked up from the floor. "Well, I'll be-" Jack began and then paused. "Hanged, maybe, Jack Bakeman," the other broke in grimly. Jack shuddered.
"Damn you! I'll-" and he advanced threateningly.

ingly.
"No, you won't. I'm an old man and I aint going to fight. What's the use? But don't you try to scare

me."
"Don't talk about it then. Besides, who did that?"
Jack Bakeman asked as he pointed toward Richard
who still lay motionless.
"That? Oh, that's all right," the other responded
with an appearance of indifference. "That couldn't
be helped. But perhaps we had better stick together."

gether."
"Yes, we had."
"But look here," the other went on, "we have got to get away with this."
The man went over to Richard Bering who still lay as he had fallen. He looked closely at him, put his hand upon the prostrate man's heart and said suddenly. denly: "Jack, the cuss isn't dead at all. We might have

known it."
"Well, he mustn't see this place. What'll we do

known it."

"Well, he mustn't see this place. What'll we do now?"

"Bring him to, of course. I'll blindfold him though. You go upstairs and get some rum."

When Jack Bakeman returned with the liquor he found that his companion had blindfolded Richard, and had carefully washed his hand and clothes of any sign of his misfortune. He was bathing Richard's head with cold water, and Richard soon betrayed his returning consciousness. His hands wandered idly to the bandage about his eyes, and he muttered something they could not hear.

"You'll soon be all right." they said to him. "Can you walk?" and they lifted him carefully on his feet. Richard was passive in their hands and when they led him he walked feebly toward the stairs. They took him to an upper room, and there they took the bandage from his eyes for there was nothing in that room to betray its character or theirs. They seated him in an easy chair and waited for him to recover from the exertion. This he quickly did.

"What am I doing here?" he asked in a helpless sort of way.

"Here, drink some of this," Jack Bakeman said, "and you will soon be home," and he gave to Richard the bottle he had secured from some where.

The effect of the potent liquor upon Richard, so weak was he, was immediate and almost disastrous. "You are the secondrel who killed my father," he said to Jack Bakeman, springing at him with fury.

But Jack's companion caught Richard and in his enfeebled condition easily forced nim back into his clair.

"Confound it!" the man said angrily. "I didn't "Confound it!" the man said angrily. "I didn't he was a said angrily. "I did

But Jack's companion caught Richard and in his enfeebled condition easily forced nim back into his chair.

"Confound it!" the man said angrily. "I didn't know that he had seen your face. Nobody has killed your father," he went on turning to Richard. "You must have been drinking a lot."

"Drinking?" asked Richard hazily. "Have I been drinking?"

"Well, I should think you had," the man said and he winked cunningly at Jack. "Here, take some more. There's nothing like it to bring you around," and he handed again to Richard almost a glassful of the flery liquid.

Richard flared up again. He made an effort to stand upon his feet and to get at Jack; but he was easily held down. His head nodded unsteadily. Soon he was fast asleep. "It take care of him. What'll you do? Why didn't you say he had seen you?"

"I didn't know he had. I suppose I have got to get out."

"Then I'll have to go on the tramp, or go to sea."
"To sea?" the other man responded as though he found a suggestion in this and he looked again at Richard who slept on uneasily. "That's the best hing," he continued.

hing," he continued.
"I suppose it is. But what'll you do with him? You won't hurt him?"
"Hurt him? No. Another pointer of the boss's, 'Don't do anything that ain't necessary.' I think I know what to do with him. You get out quick. I'll keep house."
"It's tough. I'll get square with the old man yet."
"What have you got to get square for? He didn't want you to go and do a mischief."
"Well, it was his job. Why can't he help me out?"
"Help yourself out, and don't waste any time about it, either."

"Well, it was his job. Why can't he help me out?"

"Help yourself out, and don't waste any time about it, either."

"All right. I am going; but don't you forget that when I come back I'm going to have my share."

"Good luck to you."

The man left behind with Richard was almost a giant in strength. He could easily enough have taken Richard where he pleased, so far as present opposition from him was concerned; but his face was not a hard one in spite of the signs of dissipation it carried and there was a lurking kindness about the irresolute mouth. He might be trusted to do the work in hand if it might be done quickly but he was not likely to be cruel, or even persistent. He was not likely to be cruel, or even persistent. He was now mightily relieved that Richard had recovered from the effect of the blow he had received; but he was none the less determined to so manage that neither Jack Bakeman nor anyone else should come to grief because of Richard's knowledge of this house and its whereabouts. He had hit a plan which he thought would do.

In the gray dawn of the early morning he awakened Richard.

"Come." he said, "you must get home."

Richard roused himself and looked blankly at the man. Plainly he knew nothing of his surroundings and had forgotten almost all that had happened.

"Not sober yet?" the man asked him, and he brought him water and dashed some in his face.

Richard was still dull and seemed to care but little what was done with him.

"This will be too easy," the man said to himself; and then continued aloud, "take another drink. That'll straighten you out," And he handed Richard another glass nearly full of the liquor. Richard drained it at a gulp and settled himself in his chair for another glass nearly full of the liquor. Richard drained it at a gulp and settled himself in his chair for another glass nearly full of the liquor. Richard drained to take the whene."

and then continued about, "And he handed Richard another glass nearly full of the liquor. Richard drained it at a gulp and settled himself in his chair for another nap.

"Here that won't do. Come, you must get home." He took Richard by his clbows and lifted him on his feet. Then he led him forth into the street, where the sun was now gilding the upper windows of the houses and the trectops, but the shadows were still long and dark. The man led Richard, who stumbled along beside him vainly trying to control his steps, down the short street toward the river. Arrived at the street running along the river, where ships of all kinds lay at the wharves, he turned without hesitation to the left. Richard now leaned rather heavily upon him, and sometimes staggered so that he would have fallen had not the man held him up.

"Brace up. Brace up, now," he said. "We haven't much farther to go."

But as Richard seemed to grow more helpless and weaker, the man was puzzled.

"Oh, so you think another drink would do you good, do you?" he asked him aloud as they passed a lot of men already gathered on a corner, fearful that they might be curious. "Come in here then," and he led him into a low liquor shop, the walls of which were covered with cheap prints of prize fighters, and ballet dancers and race ho ses. The place had not yet been swept and cleaned for the day and it was redolent of the last night's debauch. He procured for Richard another drink. Under its influence Richard another drink. Under its influence Richard walked a little more firmly and he was led with less difficulty perhaps half a block more. Here the man suddenly turned and led him into a queer looking office with a counter about waist high running half its length. There was sawdust on the floor, a few huge spittoons and some armchairs. Its only occupant was a man whose deeply searred face and whose one eye gave him a sinister look.

"Hullo," he said, "what have you got there?"

"A friend of mine wants to go to sea. Can you give him a job?"

"Is he a sailor man?"

'Everything," echoed Richard who comprehended

nothing of what was going on.
"I'll risk it," said the shipping agent. "Can he sign his name?"
"I don't know. He's been doing some heavy preparing you see."

"I don't know. He's been doing some heavy preparing you see."
They led Richard to the counter and placing a pen in his hand they watched him as he shakily signed his name to the paper they put before him.
"What is it?" the agent asked as he in vain tried to decipher it.
"Robert Brown," Richard's companion said as he too looked at the signature and saw that it was as much like that as anything. "Is it far to the ship?" he asked. "He ain't much on the walk this morning, let's get him aboard and I'll send his dunnage down to him myself."
"All right; but they won't miss no tide remember. Dunnage or no dunnage."

CHAPTER VII.

Richard Bering came to himself in a place the like of which he had never seen before. He was lying in a narrow bunk up near the top of a room which narrowed sharply at one end. Along the sides of this long room there were many bunks similar to the one in which he lay. In some of these lay stretched other men, and there were many bunks similar to the one in which he lay. In some of these lay stretched other men, and there were many large chests. There was a smell of tar pervading all the place. Through an opening at the top to which led a short pair of stairs there came many strange noises and sometimes a grateful puff of salt-laden air. It did not need the sound of rushing water to tell Richard where he was. He knew that he was on ship-board and in the forecastle. As he sat up and looked about him he was conscious of a pain which seemed as though it would break his head in two, and there was a great sinking of his heart. As he tried to stand he recled and nearly fell to the floor. Although the ship was tossing and pitching this was not mere sea-sickness he told himself for he had often been sailing and he believed himself proof against that. Slowly, very slowly, he made his way to the stairs and sat there where the fresh air could reach him.

"Sick are you?" one man called to him. "You ought to be. Great Jupiter, what a load you had! You'd better get all right before this watch is called." Richard made no answer. He was busily thinking, and he was able to recall in a misty way some of the things which had befallen him. He knew that he had been smuggled aboard and he feared that now there might be no escape. He might at least appeal to the Captain, that could do him no harm and he would do so at once. He managed to make his way on deck, but as he tried to stand on the inclined deck he slipped and fell with a thud against the lee rail. He was almost breathless from the shock and his weakness; but he persevered and with great labor made his way aft. Some of themen saw him and wondered what he meant to do; but the

Late on one afternoon when the capital found Richstein there came many strange noises and sometimes a stand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stomand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stomand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stomand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stomand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stomand of rushing water to tell Richard where he was a stomand of rushing water to tell Richard would break his head in two, and there was a great sinking of his heart. As he tried to stand he received and nearly fell to the floor. Although the ship was toward to the floor of against that. Slowly, very slowly, he made his way to the stairs and sat tree the tree to stairs and sat tree the fresh air could reach him.

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One man called to him.

questions of himself or his past; but Richard told him of the attack upon his father and something of his

questions of himself or his past; but Richard told him of the attack upon his father and something of his relations with Mary Irving.

"The old man was killed then?" the captain asked.

"I thought so; but now I think I have been mistaken. I know so little of death and dying, you see."

"Why, my boy, you must hope that you were mistaken. It takes a good deal to kill even an old man." And Richard did hope, and this hope so grew upon him that after a while he found himself looking forward to meeting his father as well as Mary when he should return.

"And you knew nothing after you landed in the cellar?" the captain asked at another time, for Richard's story made a deep impression upon him.

"No; I had only time for one confused look."

"But you could find the house again?"

"I am sure I could."

"It was a devillish plot. You must find it all out, everything. Blazes and gales, sir! we won't let those rascals go, You can count on me."

"Thank you," said Richard.

"You can go back with me. No; you must hurry back. You can have all the money you want for I'll take care of that; but now it will be better for you togo to San Francisco with me. That will be the quickest."

Late on one afternoon when the captain found Richard gazing wistfully across the long bine waves he said to him:

"Blue, are you? Why, what is the matter? The girl?"

"Yes."

brows a man says he was sharnhaird. Blazes and asice, man! Don't you know! won't have that?"

"Well, Captain Thompson, Smitheth brought him fellow was very drunk."

"Drunk! You rased," said the captain turning to won't you have that?"

"Drunk! You rased," said the captain turning to won't you have the won't you belong."

It was any the was sharnhaird to be an and the won't won't you be toltered for a minute, then fell upon the deck unconscious. For a minute chain thomps and turned to be toltered for a minute, then fell upon the deck unconscious. For a minute chain thomps and turned to be toltered for a minute, then fell upon the deck unconscious. For a minute chain thomps and turned him quickly on his back. He pushed his limited the won't won't have been to be to be to the construction. The said at last, "there and the pushed to be to

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Happy Hints on Home Dressmaking, with Sensible Suggestions for Summer. All for Comfort.

BY EILEEN AVERY.

Most girls are, and every girl ought to be, anxious wear becoming, well-fitting, well-made clothes; and when by exercising a little ingenuity she can gratify per desire at a moderate expense, it is neither a crime nor a weakness, but



nor a weakness, but simply an evidence of that personal pride and character which every character which every true woman possesses. To be beeo mingly dressed, however, does not signify fashionably nor expensively dressed; and as good cooking is often the simplest cooking, a well-dressed woman is frequently the simplest. well-dressed woman is frequently the simplest clothed. Some of the best-dressed women consult a professional dressmaker on rare oc-casions only. The in-same desire to be dressed in the latest fashion, and to ape the eccentricities of people who often have more money than brains, has

dresses with quiet dignity, she is always well-dressed.

Every woman, whether young orold, requires an outing dress. One suitable for tennis, boating, and general wear is made of English serge; this material is easily brushed, and does not spot. It comes forty inches in width, and can be purchased in any of the stores at seventy-five cents a yard; six yards and a half is an ample pattern, and with four and a half yards of material twenty-two inches wide for the blouse, the girl that sews may possess such a dress at the moderate expense of eight dollars. The dress consists of skirt, girdle, and blazer, and the finish is machine-stitching. If desired, novelty braid can be effectively used. The skirt escapes the ground, and has a four-inch hem. The blazer is loose-fitting, and closes with buttons and buttonholes. With this costume is worn a loose blouse, which for dressy occasions would be appropriately made of dainty wash slik, but for every day wear I advise every a wear I advise



waist and loose blouse, now so popular, can be handled by the home dressmaker, and the wise woman will not attempt the tailor-made gown. Let us hope the time will come when dressmaking will be taught in the public schools. Then perhaps the social malady, "nothing to wear," will have passed way.

A Wonderful World's Fair Clock.

The "Warschawskii Dujewnik," a paper published in Warsaw, Poland, describes a wonderful clock which will be exhibited in Chicago. The clock is the result of six years of earnest work by a watchmaker named Goldfaden in Warsaw. It represents a railroad station, with waiting room for travelers, tele road station, with waiting room for travelers, telegraph and ticket offices, an outside promenade and fountain in operation. Alongside of the station are seen the tracks, with signal booths, switches and water reservoirs—in fact, everything belonging to a European railroad depot. In the dome of the central tower of the building is aclock showing the local time, while in each of the other towers there is a clock, giving the time, respectively, of New York and Pekin. In both of the towers last mentioned a calendar and barometer are seen. Every quarter of an hour it gets lively at the station. First the telegraph operator does his work—issues the telegram to signify that the track is clear. Then the doors of the building are opened, the station keeper and his assistant appear on the platform, at the ticket office the

cashier is noticeable, the guards leave the signal booths and hoist the barrier, a long row of passengers is observable in front of the ticket office, baggage is hauled, one of the guards rings a bell and the train stands into the station. While the whistle of the locomotive is blown the train stops, a workman goes along the row of coaches and hits the axles with a hammer, while another one pumps water into the water tank of the locomotive. After a third signal with the station bell the train starts and disappears in a tunnel on the opposite side. The station keeper and his assistant leave the platform and the doors of the depot building are closed, the guards enter their booths and quiet reigns. After fifteen minutes the same trouble commences again.

Inter-State Commerce.

The Constitution of the United States and the deci-The Constitution of the United States and the decision of the United States courts, which declare in substance that drummers, agents and others, travelling from State to State selling goods shall not be intimidated, molested or made to pay local taxes, is being trampled under foot all over our country by petty town officials. When officials flagrantly refuse to obey our laws, etc., what can be expected of private citizens? Our country is fast becoming one of tyranny and oppression of the poor. Town officials claim that agents do not help pay expenses of government. That is false. Do they not pay transient rates for board, spend millions of dollars annually in travelling expenses, are pioneers for the best books, household and agricultural implements, etc., etc., and thousands of them pay taxes upon property where they permanently reside? But this isn't to the point. The constitution exempts travelling men from State, county or borough taxes, and it is robbery for jealous local merchants through their petty officials, to extort taxes or jail agents for selling under the protection of the inter-state commerce laws.

Agents would not object to paying a reasonable tax per day, week, month or year, but when some petty towns "boycott" them by demanding more in taxes for the privilege of canvassing for a few days or weeks than the wealthiest local merchant pays for in a whole year, it is an infermous outrage.—Florence Advertiser. sion of the United States courts, which declare in

Short Sermons for Boys.

A Swedish boy fell out the window and was badly hurt, but with clinched lips he kept back the cry of pain. The king, Gustavus Adolphus, who saw him fall, prophesied that that boy would make a man for an emergency. And so he did, for he became the famous Gen. Bauer.

A boy used to crush the flowers to get their color and painted the white side of his father's cottage in Tyrol with all sorts of pictures, which the mountain-eers gazed at as wonderful. He was the great artist Titian.

And old painter watched a little fellow who amused himself making drawings of his pot and brushes, easel and stool, and said: "That boy will beat me one day." So he did, for he was Michael Angelo.

A German boy was reading a blood-and-thunder novel. Right in the midst of it he said to himself, "Now, this will never do. I get too much excited over it. I can't study so well after it. So here it goes!" and he flung the book out into the river. He was Fichte, the great German philosopher.

Do you know what these little sermons mean? Why, simply this, that in boyhood and girlhood are shown the trait for good or evil which make the man or woman good or not.

More Than President of the U.S. Receives.

Here is a pointer for the poorest farmer boy who desires to enlarge the sphere of his activity as he grows older. President Beers, of the New York Life Insurance Company, had a salary of \$50,000 a year, but when he resigned, Mr. John A. McCall, was elected to succeed him at a salary of \$75,000 or \$25,000 more than the President of the United States gets. Now the pointer is this, Mr. McCall started in life a poor boy with only a public school education, just as thousands of other poor boys have started at the foot of the ladder. But he was truthful, sober, industrious and ambitious to be useful and successful.

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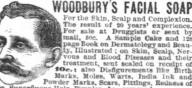


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BUY and make it sing while its life lasts, by sending you to the BIRD FOOD CO., 400 N. 3d St., Philayour delphia, Pa., for a cake of BIRD MANNA, while the wonderful secret of the Harts Mountain wife Canary Breeders. It provides the little musician with a food which it cannot otherwise A obtain in captivity and it is therefore a positive necessity to the health of every cage bird. Delivered by mail CANARY for postage stamps 15 CTS.

WANTED—Salesmen; who can easily make \$25 to \$75 per week, selling the Celebrated Pinless Clothes Line or the Famous Fountain Ink Eraser; patents recently issued. Sold ONLY by salesmen to whom we give EXCLUSIVE TERRITORY. The Pinless Clothes Line is the only line ever invented that holds clothes without pins—a perfect success. The Fountain Ink Eraser is entirely new, will erase ink instantly, and is king of all. On receipt of 90c. will mall sample of either, or sample of both for \$1, with circulars, price-lists and terms. Secure your territory at once. THE PINLESS CLOTHES LINE CO., 121 Hermon Street, Worcester, Mass.



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The result of 20 years' experience.
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LOVELY FACES,

WHITE HANDS.

Nothing will WHITEN and CLEAR the skin so quickly

The new discovery for J dissolving and bleaching and brightening the complexion. In experimenting in the laundry with a new bleach for fine fabrics it was discovered that all spots, freckles, tan, and other discolorations were quickly removed from the hands and arms without the slightest injury to the skin. The discovery was submitted to experienced Dermatologists and Physicians who prepared for us the formula of the marvelous Derma-Royale. There never was submitted to experienced Dermatologists and Physicians who prepared for us the formula of the marvelous Derma-Royale. There never was anything like it. It is perfectly harmless and so simple a child can use it. Apply at night—the improvement apparent after a single application will surprise and delight you. It quickly dissolves and removes the worst forms of moth-patches, brown or liver spots, freckles, black-heads, blotches, sallowness, redness, tan and every discoloration of the cuticle. One bottle completely removes and cures the most aggravated case and thoroughly clears, whitens and beautifies the complexion. It has never failed—it cannot fall. It is highly recommended by Physicians and its sure results warrant us in offering

\$5000 REWARD.—To assure the public of its merits we agree to forfeit we hundred Dollars cash, for any case of mothpatches, brown spots, liver spots, blackheads, ugly or muddy skin, unnatural redness, freckles, tan or any other cutaneous discolorations, (excepting birthmarks, scars, and those of a scrofulous or kindred nature) that Derma-Royale will not quickly remove and cure. We also agree to forfeit Five Hundred Dollars to any person whose skin can be injured in the slightest possible manner, or to anyone whose complexion (no matter in how bad condition it may bee, will not be cleared, whitened, improved and beautified by the use of Derma-Royale.

Put up in elegant style in large cleft-ounce bottles.

Price, \$1.00. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED.

Derma-Royale sent to any address, safely packed and securely sealed from observation, safe delivery guaranteed, on receipt of price, 81.00 per bottle. Send money by registered letter or money order with your full post-office address written plainly; be sure to give your County, and mention this paper. Correspondence sacredly private. Postage stamps received the same as cash.

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Cardiff, Colo., March 5, 1892, -Kirtland

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I have berries, grapes and peaches, a year old, fresh as when picked. I use the Calfornia Cold Process; do not heat or seal for the fruit, just put it up cold, keeps perfectly fresh, and costs almost nothing; can up anyone will pay a doliar for directions, when they see the beautiful samples of experience to such, and feel confident anyone can make one or two hundred dellars, round home, in a few days. I will mail sample of fruit and complete directions to any of your readers, for 18 two cent stamps, which is only the actual cost of the amples, postage, etc. to me. I ask nothing for the directions amples, postage, etc. to me. I ask nothing for the directions.



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To introduce them, one in every County or town furnished reliable persons (either sex) who will promise to show it. Excelsior Music Box Co., Box 2126, N.Y. City.



OMMENTS or OOKING.

EAR COUSINS:
Once more I will endeavor to present some seasonable recipes. I shall give the recipes for canning and preserving some what earlier than usual, for they can easily be kept till wanted, and that is much better than having them come too late. Many thanks for contributions from the cousins.

COOKERY FOR THE SICK.

Wine posset.

In a pint of milk boil 2 small slices of bread.

When soft remove it from the fire, add a little grated nutmeg and a teaspoonful of sugar; then pour into it slowly 1-2 pint sweet wine and serve with toasted bread.

wing whey.

1 pint sweet milk, boil and pour slowly some sherry wine until it curdles; then strain and use the whey.

use the whey.

INFANT FOOD.

Let 1 quart of milk stand over night; skim off the cream, and upon it pour 1 pint of boiling water. In 1 quart of water let 3 tablespoonfuls of oatmeal boil about 2 hours and then strain. To one gill of the cream and water add 2 tablespoonfuls of the oatmeal water. Sweeten it when given. This recipe comes from an experienced nurse.

perienced nurse.

ONION GRUEL.

Take 2 ounces of coarse oatmeal and 1 large enion sliced; put them in a quart of cold water. Boil slowly for 2 hours, adding sufficient water to keep up the original quantity. Strain through a fine sieve, salt to taste, and serve with toasted bread. The yolk of an egg beaten up in the gruel is a good addition. Or if preferred, boil the gruel down thick, strain, add salt and sugar to taste, beat 1 egg light, add the gruel slowly beating all the time until it looks like a soft custard. Splendid for children.

ORANGE PANADA.

like a soft custard. Splendid for children.

ORANGE PANADA.

Squeeze into a saucer the juice of several oranges, and crumble cracker into it. Gratefully accepted by feverish patients.

Suggestions for the sick room.

In warm weather the air of the room can be cooled by hanging before open windows pieces of blankets, frequently wrung out in ice water.

How to keep fine cut flowers fresh. Place ithe flowers in a vase of warm water, spray the flowers with cold water, change the water morning and evening; treated in this way you can keep flowers fresh 5 or 6 days.

VEGETABLE CANNING.

way you can keep flowers fresh 5 or 6 days.

VEGETABLE CANNING.

Peas, string beans, shell beans and asparagus, shell beans and shell peas; cut snap beans same as you would for cooking; cut asparagus in 1-2 inch bits or if preferred, it may be left in long pieces. Pack self sealing jars full as possible with vegetables, add cold water to overflowing, screw cover on as firmly as can be done with first finger and thumb, place in the bottom of wash boiler a layer of hay or cloth, then cans; fill boiler in this manner, having plenty of hay and cloth between cans to prevent breakage. Cover cans with cold water, and boil steadily 3 hours. On steady boiling depends much of the success of canning. Remove boiler from fire When cool remove cans, tighten, and when cold wrap each in brown paper and keep in a cool, dark, dry cellar or closet.

TOMATOES.

If desired to can tomatoes in slices, peel, slice and pack in jars, then proceed as directed for corn.

Husk and free from silk, then cut kernels lengthwise, and with a knife scrape corn from sob. Pack into cans with small end of potato masher, until overflowing. You will not need to add water to corn. Screw on covers as directed for beans, and proceed exactly as directed in first recipe. When cold, cover with brown paper and keep in a cool, dark cellar or closet. Plenty of can corn is very nice in winker.

Peel, boil, mash, have the cans hot; fill with squash to overflowing, then screw on the cover as rapidly as possible, and the work is done. When cold proceed as for other vegetables.

Peel, slice and soak in salted water, then fill tans, add cold water, and proceed as directed for peas or beans.

I bb. of sugar, 1 lb. of butter, 3 lbs. of flour, 2 hablespoonfuls of ginger, 1 gill of cream, 1 pint of molasses. Rub the butter in the flour, add the other ingredients. Roll out the dough, cut into cakes, place them on buttered tins and bake in a moderately cool oven. If preferred wash the cakes over with sugar and water before baking them.

SUGAR COOKIES.

1 cupful sugar, 1-2 cup butter, 3 tablespoonfuls of sour cream, 2 eggs, 1-2 teaspoon of soda, a little nutmeg, 4 cupfuls of flour. Roll thin and bake quickly.

COFFEE ROLLS.

Work into a quart of bread dough a table-poonful of butter and 1-2 teacup of white sugar, spoonful of butter and 1-2 teacup of white sugar, add some dried currants (well washed and dried in the oven), sift some flour and sugar over them, work into the dough thoroughly, make into small, long rolls, dip them into melted butter, place in the pans, let rise a short time and bake.

Sunny Churchil.

TABLE FOR CANNING FRUIT.

					ime		Sug	ar
					oiling		per	qt.
Sour ap	ple	es .		10	min.		- 6	oz.
Crab ap	ple	es .		25	"		8	"
Blackbe	rr	ies .		6	**		6	**
Goosebe	err	ies		8	"		8	**
Raspber	rie	es .		6	"		4	"
Huckleh	oer	ries		5	**		4	"
Strawbe	rri	es		8	**		8	"
Cherries	,			5	**		6	**
Currant	3			6	**		8	
Pears				20	**	4	6	"
Plums				10	44		8	
Peaches				15	44		4	44
Tomatoes	5			30	**		_	**
Quinces				30	**		10	46

Pare and core the apples, cut in thin slices and add 3-4 lb. sugar to 1 lb. fruit; add cloves and lemon rind to taste and boil 1-2 hour over sprick fire.

Stew the stalks till tender; strain through jelly-bag and flavor with extract of lemon. To 1 pint of juice add 1 lb. of sugar.

CHERRY BUTTER.

Boil cherries till soft; then rub through colander, and to each pint of pulp add 1 pint sugar. Boil carefully till thick, then put in clearly covered inc. sugar. Boil careful closely covered jars.

PIE-PLANT BUTTER.
Add 1 lb. sugar to each lb. peeled and cut up pie-plant and simmer gently for 1 hour or more.

Scald till they crack open, then when cool put through colander, add 3-4 pint sugar to 1 pint fruit. Season and boil 3 hours and it will not

1 peck green tomatoes, 1 large cabbage, 1 doz. onions; chop fine and mix with 1-2 pint salt; let it stand over night; in the morning drain and scald in weak vinegar; drain this off and stir in ground spices to suit the taste; add 6 peppers chopped; pack in a jar and cover with strong vinegar.

Strong vinegar.

Slice 1 peck green tomatoe sin jar and sprinkle a little salt over each layer; let them stand 24 hours and drain; put tomatoes in kettle with teaspoon each of ground ginger, cloves, allspice, mace and cinnamon; 12 small or 3 large peppers, 3 onions, 1 cup brown sugar; cover all with vinegar and boil till tender.

TOMATO CATSUP.

1 gallon ripe, 2 tablespoons each of salt, cloves, ground mustard and pepper, 1 pint vinegar, 1 cup sugar, strain and bottle.

Mrs. Evie Sprague.

cloves, ground mustard and pepper, 1 pint vinegar, I cup sugar, strain and bottle.

Mrs. Evie Sprague.

Dear Cousin Ceres:—Here I am again after a very long absence; but as you made a call for more recipes, I thought I would come again. And it won't be cakes either, why do the cousins send so many cakes and pies and such things instead of a few good simple vegetable and side dishes? I for one would certainly prefer a few and I know others would also; especially when the recipes for some of the cakes call for from 8 to 15 eggs, and here eggs cost from 30c. to 40c. per doz. all fall and winter. So stir them up "coz" and tell them to send us a few good old ways for cooking meats and vegetables. I send you my way of cooking an Irish stew, it is a very common way, but the results are very good.

I take a slice of round steak, (or any kind of meat on hand, scraps of cold boiled beef is very good.) and put it in an iron skillet, after cutting in small pieces. On that I put a layer of onions, then a layer of potatoes, then a layer of turnips and carrots, barely cover with water and let it simmer until the vegetables are ready to fall to pieces; when about half done season with plenty of salt, pepper and a dash of Worcestershire sauce if desired, thicken if needed and serve.

Those who like onions will certainly like them fried this way:—Wash and cut crosswise so as to form undivided rings. Flour them, fry 5 or 6 minutes, drain, sprinkle with salt and pepper and serve with steak. The above is a dainty way of serving them, if properly done. Well "coz" I hope these recipes will prove acceptable to you, and if they do I will come again. With the best of wishes for the future of Comfort. I remain yours truly,

Mrs. Lola V. Golder,

I have more good recipes for pickles and ellies on hand, which I will bring forward next month.

I have more good recipes for pickles and jellies on hand, which I will bring forward next month.

COUSIN CERES, (Care of COMFORT.)

Two Singular Epitaphs.

Here are two epitaphs, the first of which is said to be upon a tombstone in the City of Sacramento:

"HERE IS LAID DANIEL BORROW, WHO WAS BORN IN SORROW, AND BORROWED LITTLE FROM NATURE EXCEPT HIS NAME AND HIS LOVE TO MANKIND AND HATED TO REDSKINS; WHO WAS NEVERTHELESS A GENTLEMAN AND A DEAD SHOT; WHO, THROUGH A LONG LIFE, NEVER KILLED HIS MAN EXCEPT IN SELF-DEFENSE OR BY ACCIDENT; AND WHO, WHEN HE AT LAST WENT UNDER, BEREATH THE BULLETS OF HIS COWARDLY ENEMISS IN THE SALOON OF JEFF MORRIS, DID SO IN THE SURE AND CERTAIN HOPE OF A GLORIOUS AND EVERLASTING MORROW."

The other, which belongs to a Nevada burying place, is such a noteworthy achievement in this line that it may fitly conclude our compilation of a few of the curiosities of epitaph literature:

"SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF HANK MONK—THE WHITEST, BIGGEST-HEARTED, AND BEST-KNOWN STAGE-DRIVER OF THE WEST; WHO WAS KIND TO ALL AND THOUGHT LIL OF NOWE. HE LIVED IN A STRANGE ERA, AND WAS A HERO, AND THE WHEELS OF HIS COACH ARE NOW RINGING ON GOLDEN STREETS."

A Legal Condition.

Not long ago, at a wedding dinner, one of the guests told this story:

told this story:

In a Western town, a small number of zealous people decided to put up a Young Men's Christian Association building. A committee was appointed, and they sent for a contractor to undertake the work. When he came, the first thing he did was to inquire, in a very worldly and matter-of-fact sort of way, into the financial resources of the organization. The President replied: "Never fear, sir, we are sure of funds; the Lord is on our side." "That is all very well," replied the contractor, 'but I want some one that I can send the sheriff after if necessary."

BEECHAM'S PILLS for a bad Liver.

Bright and beautiful is a home with a Marchal & Smith Piano or Organ in it. It is easy for you to buy one, no matter where you live, from The Marchal & Smith Piano Co., of 235 East 21st St., New York.

FREE Catarrh cured free of all charge for recom-mendations after cure. For free cure ad-dress Medical Inhalation Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

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\$1,000 for certain date. I pay big prices for 900 kinds old coins; cents, 3/2 cents, 2 cents, inckels, dimes, quarters, halves, dollars, etc., dated before 1871. Send stamp for important particulars. W. E. Skinner, Coin Broker, Boston, Mass.

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Cures the worst cases of SICK, NERVOUS or BILIOUS Headache and Neuralgia in 10 minutes. Contains no opiate-leaves no bad effects. Price, 25 cts.; costs agents 12 1-2 cts. To be paid for when sold. One package sent FRER wis full particulars and AGENTS' TERMS, on receipt of 5 cts. (stamps) to pay postage. C. W. BUNCAN, Newark, N. R. Flease mention Componer when you write.

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To introduce my goods quickly I make this liberal offer: I will give any lady One Dozen Tea Spoons, Heavy Silver plated, latest artistic design, warranted to wear, who will dispose of I Dozen Boxes of Hawley's Corn Salve (warranted to cure) among friends at 25c a box. I ask no money in advance, simply send me your name; I will mall you the salve postage paid. When sold you send me the money and I will mall you the l dozen handsome Tea Spoons. If you find you can't sell salve, I take it back. I run all the risk. Address

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The prise and of music. The poles and the music we see numbered in like manner, being printed in notes. Yes, one of the easy pieces in \$60 a. A strong, durable instrument a lifetime. Elegantly miske get out of order. We send to finusic numbered as explain Perfect satisfaction guarantee one, and in the Concert Fisis one.

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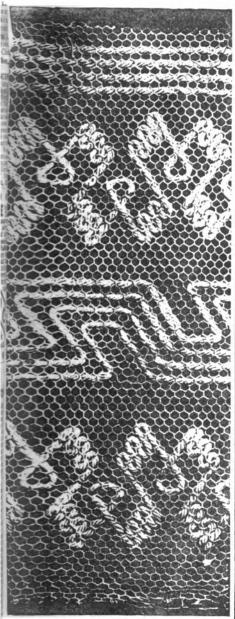


OW very late the Bees are this morning! I thought they would want to get around early, it is such a warm day, and there is every appearance of thunder-showers bye and bye. Have you filled the ice-pitcher, Cousin Drone? we shall surely that, for they will all be thirsty after their walk. Perhaps you had better make some lemonade, if you can spare the time to go down to the grocer's for the lemons; I used the last one yesterday. Hunt up all the fans, Queen Bee, we shall want them every one; and I will pull the awning down, if that will not make the porch too dark for our work. Here they come, in summer array; but we will have a small meeting, if I may judge from appearances. You are late, sister Bees, and the sun is getting high over your heads; you must be very warm.

"Well, we should have been here carlier, but we had to dodge so many Fourth of July celebrations, and get out of the way of so many small boys with fire-crackers, that I thought we should never get here at all." says one Bee, anning herself energetically. "This is the meanest month to travel in the whole year."

Not quite as bad as August, do you think? and I hope that the Bees have brought so many pretty patterns that you will feel rewarded for he exertion. I see Bob's Wife here, and I snow her skillful fingers of old. What have you for us this time, my busy matron?

"If you don't say that this is the very prettiest pattern for a bedspread that you ever saw, I shall be tempted to give you a sting all round," anys Mrs. Bob. "I am going to leave this sample at the Hive, and if any one wants to borrow it. I presume that Busy Bee will loan it on receipt of a couple of stamps. Next time I will firing a border to mitch, if any one would like it."



DARNED LACE FOR CURTAINS, &C.

KNITTED SQUARE FOR SPREAD.

This square is knitted, according to the purpose for which it is designed, with coarse or fine knitting cotton and steel needles of corresponding size. Take up 2 sts on each of 4 needles (8 in all), knit with the 5th, always going forward, knit I round plain, then—

Ist row.—* tto (thread thrown over), k1; repeat from *. This repetition from * will not be referred to again in the course of the work, being understood.

2d row.—Plain.

3d row.—* tto, k1.

4th row.—* tto, k1.

5th row.—* tto, k 3, tto, k 1, tto, k 3, tto, k 1 erossed.

6th row.—* p 2, k 1, p 2, k 1.

6th row.—* p 2, k 1, p 2, k 1.

7th row .- * tto, k 5, tto, k 1, tto, k 5, tto, k 1

crossed.
8th row.—* p 3, k 9, p 3, k 1.
9th row.—* tto, k 7, tto, k 1, tto, k 7, tto, k 1

crossed.

10th row.—* p 4, k 11, p 4, k 1.

11th row.—* tto, k 9, tto, k 1, tto, k 9, tto, k 1

12th row.—* p 5, k 13, p 5, k 1.
13th row.—* tto, k 11, tto, k 1, tto, k 11, tto, k 1

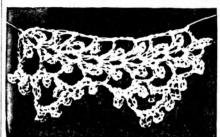
crossed.

14th row.—* p 6, k 15, p 6, k 1.
15th row.—* tto, k 13, tto, k 1, tto, k 13, tto, k 1
crossed.

16th row.—* p 7, narrow (to do this always slip
the next stitch, knit the next stitch and pass
slipped stitch over), k 13, n, p 1, k 1.

17th row.—* tto, k 29, tto, k 1 crossed.

Like this work every following row denoted



NARROW PICOT LACE.

by an odd number up to and inclusive of the 3ist.

oy an odd number up to and inclusive of the 31st.

18th row.—* p 8, n, k 11, n, p 8, k 1.

20th row.—* p 9, n, k 9, n, p 9, k 1.

22d row.—* p 10, n, k 7, n, p 10, k 1.

24th row.—* p 11, n, k 5, n, p 11, k 1.

26th row.—* p 12, n, k 3, n, p 12, k 1.

28th row.—* p 13, n, k 1, n, p 13, k 1.

30th row.—* p 14, n 2 (to do this slip next st, k 2 tog and pass slipped st over), p 14, k 1.

32d row.—Plain. From here all rows denoted by even numbers up to and inclusive of 48th all knit plain.

33d row.—* 15 times alternately tto, n; then tto, k 1, tto, k 1 crossed.

35th row.—* tto, n, 5 times alternately tto, k 4, n; then tto, k 1, tto, k 1 crossed.

37th row.—* tto, n, 5 times alternately tto, k 1, tto, n, k 1, n; then tto, k 1, tto, n, tto, k 1

crossed.

38th row.—* tto, n, 5 times alternately tto, k 3, ...

38th row.—* tto, n, 5 times alternately tto, k 3, ...

tto, n, k 1, n; then tto, k 1, tto, n, tto, k 1 crossed.

39th row.—*tto, n, 5 times alternately tto, k 3, tto, n 2; then tto, k 3, tto, n, tto, k 1 crossed.

41st row.—*tto, k 2, 5 times alternately tto, n, k 1, n, tto, k 1; then tto, n, k 1, n, tto, k 2, tto, k 1 crossed.

43d row.—*tto, k 4, tto, n 2, 5 times alternately tto, k 3, tto, n 2; then tto, k 4, tto, k 1 crossed.

45th row.—*tto, k 43, tto, k 1 crossed.

47th row.—*22 times alternately tto, n; then tto, k 1, tto, k 1 crossed.

49th 50th and 51st all plain after the 48th, turn the work and knit the last rows on the wrong side so they appear purled on the right side. Then cast off the stitches.

"You often urge us to be more neighborly in answering the requests for patterns, Busy Bee," says Evie Fleming, coming forward, "so I have come all the way from Bake Oven, Oregon, this morning, to bring the directions for a purse which one of the Bees wanted; and now while you have the needles in your hands is a good time to try it. It takes one-half ounce of knitting silk and two small steel needles.

LONG SILK PURSE.

Cast on 59 stitches knit across plain

ting silk and two small steel needles.

LONG SILK PURSE.
Cast on 59 stitches, knit across plain.
1st row.—Purl 2, tto, repeat until only 1 st remains, k 1.
2d row.—Same as 1st, and so on until the 65th row. Care must be taken to keep up the number of stitches, as one may be easily dropped and not be noticed. Now do 83 rows of plain, knitting, garter stitch. Then knit 64 rows of the fancy pattern same as at the beginning, knit one row plain and bind off. You now have a long, flat piece, a little smaller in the middle than at the ends. Sew up the sides as far as the plain knitting, sew up the ends, and finish with steel trimmings.

And I have a pretty lace pattern, too, which I think you might like; it is very nice to trim underwear.

NARROW PICOT LACE.

NARROW PICOT LACE.

1st row.—Ch 7, 1 tr, 1 picot (5 ch, 1 sc in 1st st f ch), 1 tr in 1st st of 7 ch, ch 2, 1 tr, 1 picot, 1 tr

of ch), 1 tr in 1st st of 7 ch, ch 2, 1 tr, 1 picot, 1 tr in same ch, turn.
2d row.—Ch 5, 1 tr, 1 picot, 1 tr under ch 2, ch 2, 1 tr, 1 picot, 1 tr under same ch 2, ch 6, fasten with sc in ch beside the 1st tr of last row, turn.
3d row.—2 dc, *1 picot, 2 dc under ch 6, repeat twice from * ch 3, 1 tr, 1 picot, 1 tr in ch 2 (between tr), ch 2, 1 tr, 1 picot, 1 tr in same ch 2, ch 2, 1 tr in 3d of ch 5, turn.

4th row.—Ch 5, like 2d row to scallop, then ch

4th row.—Ch 5, like 2d row to scallop, then ch 6, sc in ch 3, turn.
5th row.—2 dc, 1 picot, 2 dc under ch 6, ch 6, turn, dc in middle picot of scallop of 3d row, turn, 2 dc, *1 picot, 2 dc under ch 6, repeat twice from *1 dc, 1 picot, 2 dc, 1 picot under last part of 1st ch 6, ch 3, 1 tr, 1 picot, 1 tr, 2 ch, 1 tr, 1 picot, 1 tr, 3 ll under ch 2, ch 2, 1 tr in 3d of 5 ch; repeat from 2d row.

Thanks to all the Bees for making the Hive so interesting."

Here is an Indiana Bee with some suggestions for fancy articles.

"If you want to make a pretty

THROW
for a picture or shelf, try this. Get a yard of
black silk veiling, make rosettes of orange ribbon, put 3 on one end and 2 on the other, and
trim with yellow plush balls or tassels.

FRIENDSHIP TIDY.

Get enough "friendship" ribbons 1-2 yd. long to make a tidy 1-2 yd. wide. Lap the edges over a little, and work the seams with floss in fancy stitches. Finish the edge with a lace ruffle.

Gympson burrs, gilded or dyed, and sprinkled with diamond dust or fitters, are pretty tied on black velvet banners with a bow of bright rib bon. For banner rods, use pieces of fishing pole, and pasteboard rings crocheted with silk."

pole, and pasteboard rings crocheted with silk."

How TO MAKE LACE CURTAINS.

"Do any of the Bees ever do any darned lace?"
asks a Bee from Long Island. "I made a
beautiful pair of curtains several years ago,
which were much admired, and have brought a
sample of the work with me to-day. It also
makes a handsome table cover, or baby carriage afghan, trimmed all around with coarse
lace of the same material. I made one and
lined it with red paper muslin. I made it a little longer and wider than the carriage, and did
not tuck it in when baby was small, as the frill
of lace looks so much prettier hanging over the
sides. I did not put the frill on the cover until
after I had lined it, as the frill is not to be
lined. I hope some of the Bees will admire
this sample enough to try the work, and make
themselves some curtains; mine have been
washed a number of times, so you see that it is
durable as well as beautiful."

"My hands are so warm that I cannot work

"My hands are so warm that I cannot work any longer." says Prairie Rose, "and I suggest that we adjourn. Just one more glass of lemon-ade, Busy Bee! Mr. Drone deserves a vote of thanks from the company for making it."

Good-bye to all, and try not to get sun-struck on the way home!

Contributions solicited for this column from the friends of Comport. It is impossible for me to give addresses, or answer letters priv-ately. Address, BUSY BEE, (Care of Comport Pub. Co.)

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STRANDED.



T was an autumn day on a little island in the Baltic Sea. Just four years ago this very day, Charles Harding had left Bremen as steersman on the barque "Martha," bound for Montevideo, and from Montevideo he had written home to Enoch Sack, the father of Elizabeth (the girl to whom he was engaged), saying that the ship had taken a cargo for the west coast of South America, and consequently he would get back to the island nearly eight months later than he had hoped; but that his marriage with Elizabeth should take place immediately on his

return.

A year went by and no news came, until Enoch, while away on business, heard that the "Martha" was missing and six months later a friend sent him a newspaper, which stated that the "Martha" had been wrecked off the coast of Chili and only a part of her crew had been rescued. Charles Harding's name was not among those of the saved.

The family and neighbors were struck by the quiet way in which Elizabeth took the news. But as the years went by they found she had not lost hope, but still spent long hours on the shore watching for his return.

The news concerning Harding had been of equal importance to but one other person on the island, and that was to Walter Kirsch. When very young, Wal-



Without delay he sought Elizabeth.

ter had been sent as sailor on a three years' cruise; but he was not too young to have fallen in love with Elizabeth before he left; nor, at the end of the three years, to watch her grief at the delayed return of the man to whom she had become engaged during Walter's absence.

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me, as a wife who honors and targets you good?"

Walter replied joyously, "the man you loved was a proud youth and my warmest friend, so I only love you more, for your fidelity to him. But I feel sure, in time, you will forget the past and give your heart to me. Since you have consented, when shall the marriage take place?"
"Not before spring" replied Elizabeth. "I have some preparations to make."

"Not before spring" replied Elizabeth. "I have some preparations to make."

It was the evening eight days before the wedding and a fearful storm was raging, when suddenly the horn at the rescuing station was sounded.

Young and old rushed to the shore. When Walter arrived the life boat was just ready to be launched on the roaring sea, he and eight other youths sprang into it and were soon pulling with all their force, trying, in spite of the terrific wind and billowy sea, to reach a ship which was stranded on the sand about quarter of a mile from the shore. At first it seemed hopeless, but sixteen strong arms were doing their best, and before long the lee side of the vessel had been reached and a line thrown up; quickly the crew of the unfortunate ship descended into the life boat, now the captain only was left, he paused, one man was missing. Where was the steersman? A chorus of voices answered, "The boom as it fell struck and killed him!" An injury to his foot, prevented the captain from verifying this statement, so Walter insisted on doing so.

In a moment he was on board, thrown headlong on



It was Charles Harding.

are scattered all sorts of cleverly drawn figures. He never penned a letter or began a chapter without setting at its head this devout invocation: "Jesus cum Jaria sit nobis in ria."

Men Will Smoke affigure stretched at full length on the floor. It was good cigars and some like a good pipe. Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine, have a "Cigar Pipe" which they will beat, he lived.

Like a flash it all arose before Walter what it would mean to have Charles live. Why should his life be ruined for the sake of this dying man, the sailors thought him already dead. Walter sprang to his feet

and started up the stairs. Hark, did some one cell his name! He turned back to see if it could been Charles, and as he did so the memory care brave sailors, who once risked their lives to save his rose up before him. And going back he dragged Charles on to deck and to the side, but what did it mean? There was no longer any life boat there. Looking about him Walter became aware that the waves had set the barque free, and they were already miles from the island.

He made Charles and himself fast to the mast, and then what a night of misery he spent, until there came a sudden shock and then he lost consciousness. On coming to himself he found they were aground again, and that people on the main land were already hurrying to and fro. Help must consciousnoson or be too late. But hardly had this thought crossed Walter's mind, when, with a whizzing sound, an arrow fell on the ship, to this a small cord was fastened, and to this a tinnier cord, as Walter found on drawing it in, and to the tiny cord a rope was fastened, and to that a stronger rope with a pulley on which was written, "Make fast to the ship and signal us." Walter's strength was fast failing him, but he succeeded in carrying out his directions, and slowly the rope begun to run through the pulley, and from the shore come, tied to the rope, a raft large enough for one man; to this Walter bound Charles and watched as they hasled him to the shore; then came the suspense and horrible fear test the rope should give way before the raft could return to him; but no, it came, and soon he was being received on the shore in safety.

Years afterwards Walter was to be found as captain of a large barque, and Charles was enjoying the hap-piest of home life on his native island, with Eliza-beth as his wife.

THE STORY OF A CLEVER CHAP.

IN SIX CHAPTERS.



Copyrighted, 1892. CHAP. I. "BILLY."

Billy Chapman was just sixteen, and his friends had secretly planned to give him a surprise party. Somehow Billy got wind of it and thought he'd surprise them. So he wrote to Morse & Co.—all on the quiet.

CHAP. II. THE "STRANGER."

On the appointed evening his friends trooped into the parlor, but Billy was missing. A handsome young stranger came to greet them and said that one of Billy's relatives would be down directly.





CHAP. III. BILLY'S "UNCLE."

And presently a gentleman who announced himself as Billy's uncle appeared and told them that William had net with an accident that afternoon in "trying to shovel wind off the roof," and that the family doctor would explain all about it.

CHAP. IV. THE "DOCTOR."

Next, the doctor came and said it was a compound fracture of the physiognomy, but that Billy had recovered sufficiently to enable him to smile, and that he would shortly be down. In the meantime he would send in Mr. Beard, a friend of Billy's.



CHAP. V. THE "HONORABLE."

The Honorable Mr. Beard had no sooner entered than he thought the joke had gone far enough, and suddenly snatching a set of lifelike whiskers from his face, Billy himself made a polite bow and said, "Whose surprise party is this?"

The above shows what fun boys con have by investing a few cents in our wonderful false mustaches, beards, goatees, and whiskers. The pictures here shown are of one and the same person—filly Chapman—and the marvellous changes were effected in a few seconds by means of these "gay deceivers." For Private Theatricals, Amateur Minstrel Shows, Charades, Tableaux, Parlor Entertainments, etc., they are simply immense. Nothing will so completely change one's appearance. A boy can be instantly transformed into a mau so that even his sweetheart and parents fall to recognize him. They are made of the best material—genuine hair, nicely crimped—giving them a wavy and natural appearance. Instantly adjusted or removed from the face. Mustaches and goatees—gray, red. light, medium, or dark brown, and black, price? cents each, four for 15 cents, or 40 per dozen. Beards and Whiskers—white, gray, red. light, medium, or dark brown, and black. Price, Full Beard, 60 cents; Whiskers with Mustache, 60 cents; four of either for \$2.00. Any of above goods mailed, opstpaid, on receipt of price. In ordering, send small lock of hair or state color desired. Address.

Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine.

How Columbus Looked.

Emilis Castelar, perhaps the most eminent historian in Spain to-day, writes as follows for the "Century" concerning the personal appearance of the great discoverer as he looked to the men who knew

great discoverer as he looked to the men who knew him:

Columbus was of powerful frame and large build; of majestic bearing and dignified in gesture; on the whole well formed; of middle height, inclining to tallness; his arms sinewy and bronzed like wave-beaten oars; his nerves high-strung and sensitive, quickly responsive to all emotions; his neck large and his shoulders broad; his face rather long and his nose aquiline; his complexion fair, even inclining to redness, and somewhat disfigured by freekles; his gaze piercing and his eyes clear; his brow high and calm, furrowed with the deep workings of thought. In the life written by his son Ferdinand we are told that Columbus not only sketched most marvelously, but was so skillful a penman that he was able to earn a living by engrossing and copying. In his private notes he said that every good map-draftsman ought to be a good painter as well, and he himself was such in his maps and globes and charts, over which are scattered all sorts of cleverly drawn figures. He never penned a letter or began a chapter without setting at its head this devout invocation: "Jesus cum Maria sit nobis in ria."

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HE average city youth has an idea that, from the cradle to the grave, the life of his country cousin is made up of pleasant picnics and happy holidays; and that all the country boy has to do is to go gunning, fishing, berrying, nutting, and courting, and wind up by becoming President of the United States. And every now and then some rainbow-chaser gets up and tells us that the golden days of boyhood don't last long enough. This is either a typographical error, or else the world isn't what it used to be. In that part of the country where I grew up, the rising generation felt dead certain that the golden days of boyhood lasted altogether too long. One reason for this was, that the Fourth of July didn't come often enough, and that when it finally did come round, we usually celebrated the day with rake and pitchfork instead of with pink lemonade and fire-crackers. Perhaps it isn't so now, but in those days it always threatened to rain on this particular holiday, and there was always some new-mown hay which had to come in out of the wet.

There is nothing that so fills a boy's heart with sentiments of burning patriotism as the conviction that he is losing a thousand dollars' worth of his own fun in order to save sixty-seven cents' worth of his father's hay. If parents only knew how, by holiday having, the seeds of profanity are planted in the bosoms of boys, there would be a much greater gathering in the sweet fields of Eden.

The old farm was made up of just two kinds of land: one half was rocky hills that needed levelling and the other half gullles which yearned to be filled up. And among the other brain-work to which we boys were frequently put, was that of picking up stones, and dumping them into these jumping-off places. But no matter how religiously the stones removed, the early frosts of every gentle spring brought forth a new crop of every size, color, age, and previous condition of servitude. I have we noticed that the sky was a triffe avelled over some pretty hard roads since then, but I have met with only one kind of rock that we didn't raise or stub our toes against in those "golden days of boyhood," and that is the rock that is in the rye.

In one of the meadows fronting on the road, a huge, immovable bowlder lifted its bleached granite head, and for years formed an ugly landmark. As each season seemed to raise it higher and higher, it became so much of an eye-sore that finally it was determined to remove it by blasting.

Seeing holes drilled into granite

rocks and hauling away the pieces

bys with a suggestion for a

little fun of their own. On

was considered such sport for boys, and time, was so valu able.thatweweretold if we got in five loads of. hay, chop ped plenty of firewood, and got our other chores out of the way, we might celebrate the remainder of the Fourth by blowing up the old rock. quarryman was accordingly engaged to do the drilling and loading, and the blast not only proved a gigantic success, but furnished the junior Kinsab

the following day, having successfully negotiated from the stone-cutter the loan of a can of powder and some fuse (pledging a goodly supply of father's tobacco as an evidence of good faith), we decided to begin operations on an old stump that stood near a sharp turn in the pathway which led to an old workshop. With a large auger we bored a deep hole in the top of the stump filled it with enough powder to blow up a house and rammed the load down with clay and crushed rocks, just as we had seen the workman do it. When all was ready we lit the fuse, and hastened to retreat to a safe distance. Just then we heard pending danger to father, who was forever coming

agonizing fright awaited developments. Entirely unconscious of what was going on, and somewhat wearied by his tramp, the old gentleman deliberately sat down upon the stump. Holy horrors! Even now, as I recall the situation, my heart almost stands still. So carefully had we done our work that we felt absolutely certain the explosion must occur, and our only escape from a thorough thrashing lay in the hope that our parent might, in the language of the modern boy, never know what struck him. But fate was against us, and we got the licking; for, rising suddenly, as though he had forgotten something, he started to retrace his steps. An instant later the blast knecked him off his feet, and sent him rolling down hill at the rate of a mile a minute. The stump rose skyward in countless atoms, and a young earthquake shattered windows, rocked buildings, and caused a wild stampede throughout the township. The smoke had not yet cleared away, however, before we received ample evidence that the old gentleman had entirely escaped injury, and could wield the willow as effectively as ever.

Among other holidays, glorious and otherwise, of ny youth, I recall one particularly gloomy Fourth of uly, which failed to reveal even a glimpse of the liver lining said to belong to every cloud. My bright star of hope on this special occasion hung over the circus which was to visit the nearest town, eigh or ten miles away. In joyous anticipation of this event we had been saving our pennies

for a good part of the year, and for weeks had dreamed of its wonders,s clown, its acrobats, trick mules and its huge elephant. Daylight had not dawned on the eventful morning before my brother and I were up, had milked the cows, and done the chores. Nothing, we felt, but an act of Providence could prevent our seeing that we noticed that the sky was a trifle



round into an unfavor able quarter. with a field of newmown hay staring us in the face, we quickly climbed from the car riage shed to the roof of the barn, and with a nail firmly fixed the

pointed toward the direction most promising for fair weather.

Breakfast saw us in our Sunday clothes, but with no appetite, trembling so to be on the road that our money fairly jingled in our pockets. Before we could get away, however, the old geutleman made his appearance, stepped out into the yard, sniffed the air suspiciously, and cocked his eye up at the weather vane. Then, stooping down, he picked upsome straws and tossed them into the air. That settled it. He didn't say a word; neither did the young Kinsabbys. But slowly we crept into the house, exchanged our store clothes for blue jeans and hay rakes, while a eighboring young Buckeye escorted to the circus the only girl I ever loved.

Another July joy that used to give me that tired feeling, and make me think there was a mighty long time between holidays, was riding a horse before a cultivator or shovel-plough. I have been told by doc tors from Skowhegan to Senegambia that horseback riding is the most healthful recreation;



say that with the thermometer forty-nine on the ice, the man at the plough suffering from a fractured temper, and the rider wrestling with horse-flies, gnats, and yellow-jackets. some one coming around the corner. Too late to put trying to steer clear of nigger head rocks and hidden it out, and too frightened to give the alarm of im- stumps, and fighting off sleep, a little of it goes a good ways; and that, in other words, too much of upon the scene of our youthful operations at the it is sufficient. At least, that was the conclusion I

wrong moment, we hid behind two trees, and in came to after I had ridden seven or eight thousand miles, and was "son-struck" as often as fifty times

> The man who, in the golden days of his boyho never "stumped" the cultivator, and turned a double somersault over the horse's head in his sleep, may think he's missed something awfully funny, but he

> AT a picnicking party near Waterville, Maine, a fresh ollege student was boasting about his strength before a lot of Kennebec County girls. His chest, he said, was as solid as the Constitution of the United States, and he could stand the hardest blow of a woman without flinching. It was only after a great deal of earnest urging that a mild-mannered farmer maiden consented to hit him just once. After his classmates had brought him back to consciousness, he begged them not to lift him up, as he could die easier in a reclining position, he said. The girl explained to his friends afterwards, that, as she was rather fond of the young man, and wasn't feeling very well, - having just gotten over the "Grip," and done a big day's ironing,—she didn't hit him as hard as she might.

BRAVERY BELOW THE SURFACE.

OUR new Navy is the pride of the nation. All, whether living on our coasts or far inland, read with interest of the gallant crews which man the huge and deadly weapons of modern warfare; for there is something fascinating in the life of the sailors on our mighty battle-ships, swift cruisers, or sullen-

monitors. dark, low. zerous. think of another class buried under the great steel decks, who in setion. stand si lently, like blind Sam sons grasping the pillars on which he mighty fabric rests. Here is the engineer with set face watching, waiting, and listening, know ing nought of results, his powerful engine heaving and struggling be-

ing nought of results, his powerful engine heaving and struggling before him, with hand on lever and eye on dial, amid the rocking and tossing of the vessel, hearing nothing of the fierce turmoil of the battle save the muffled explosions and shudder of the huge structure as the great guns above are plied, and the roar of the blowers forcing the draught into the fire room, where, amid flying coal-dust, the gaunt, grimy firemen cram fuel into the blazing furnaces.

At any moment, and at either hand, may open a great, yawning break, through which an inky torrent from the ocean pours, sweeping instantly over the burnished engine, and cutting off all escape.

Or, look at the men deep in the magazine, far below the surface of the water, busily passing great shells up through the narrow battle-hatches, upon whom depends the service of the great guns no less than upon the man who pulls the lock-string.

There is a flerce loy in active combat, felt by the man on deck who can return blow for blow, who can track the hurtling shells through the air, watch the clever aim, the timely hit, the hairbreadth escape, and gauge the chances of victory or defeat; but let us not forget to honor the men who, far from daylight, have not this stimulus, upon whose unavering courage depends, equally with the gunner and the wheelman, the result, but to whom come, thirty feet below the surface, amid flerce heat, only faint and broken whispers of that for which, perhaps, they are giving up their lives.



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TO OUR LADY READERS.

"How City Girls Develop and Improve Their Features and Forms by Gymnastics," is the title of a highly interesting article which will appear in our August issue. This article, which will be splendidly illustrated by special artists, will occupy one full page and will be followed by others on subjects which cannot but prove of deep interest to the world of women. We trust our lady readers will show their appreciation of our efforts in this direction by getting up clubs for our popular magazine which for the trifling sum of twenty-five cents per year directs every sister and brother to the royal road of Comfort.

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Take equal parts of tincture of cayenne, tincture of opium, tincture of rhubarb, essence of peppermint and spirits of camphor. Mix well. Dose, fifteen to thirty drops in a wine glass of water, according to age and violence of the attack. Repeat every fifteen or twenty minutes until relief is obtained.

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To old and young a careful study of our picturesque July title-page will serve to recall many cherished recollections of comfort and joy. Of all the days of the year, none is so exclusively an American holiday as the Glorious Fourth, and a glance at the "good time for all" which our artist has so graphically portrayed within the linked emblems of the sisterhood of States, will prove both interesting and instruc-Note how proudly the Bird of Freedom with pinions spread, bears upon each feather the lifelike countenance of a President, save upon the last, where soon the American people will place the likeness of a worthy successor of those honored in the past. Shadowed by the wings of the eagle are stirring events of our early history—the flight of the Hessians and hot pursuit by Continentals, the Midnight Ride of Paul Revere, the swinging bell that rang out "Liberty" in Philadelphia, and the signing of that grand legacy to all Americans-the Declaration of Independence. And from these scenes we look across the page to the commemoration exercises of the present day, the orator proclaiming in fiery words the glory of our nation, and the school children sweetly singing Columbia and the Star Spangled Banner. Let every farmer's lad remember that of the twenty-three faces pictured here, there is not one of a city-born boy—that the farm-house is the cradle of Presidents.

A FEW THOUGHTS ON VACA-TION RAMBLES.

[ILLUSTRATION PAGE 9.]

T is just as important to rest as to work, and as a people we are at last beginning to realize it. All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, and he is but little better if he has all play and no work. The Creator in His all-wise providence has ordained that the greatest of all blessings is work, and a moment's reflection shows us the truth of this proposition. Many of us, however, never have had a chance wish we had the opportunity. But the experience of men everywhere is that the man of leisure has really the hardest work of all. In prisons where the experiment has been tried, enforced idleness becomes a torture-so dreadful is such a position that while the State Government desire to limit the production of prison made goods, they have not the heart to doom the convict, wretched as he is, to the still further horror of idleness. The inevitable result is insanity and death.

And so the same truth seems to be more and more realized among our business men. They find that a man does better work for spending one month out of twelve in the country, than he does by spending all his time at the desk or the work-room throughout the year. And thus it comes about that all through the country just now the toiler seeks recreation, and in the infinite variety of mountains, seas and lakes with which our country abounds, he finds ample scope for his taste and inclination. It is a rather discouraging fact, that the farmer is so slow to see the necessity of a change. He seems content to work day in and day out in the same old rut. The farmer's wife and the farmer's daughter are in the same pitiable plight. In the summer all their relatives come down on them in swarms, and make their work doubly toilsome. If they take in boarders, the boarder wants a very large section of the earth for about five dollars a week. One would imagine they were used to the fat of the land at home, and were simply putting up with their present unfortunate surroundings out of consideration for the poor farmer. As a matter of fact, they are probably getting more than they are accustomed to, and certainly as much. I sometimes think the city boarder in the country would be more popular if they would not affect the air of superiority which they too frequently assume. It is probably due to a narrow view of the relations that should exist between the guest and the host, and is, I am happy to say, becoming less and less prevalent every year. With the growing of the summer vacation this feeling will wear away altogether. But the situation of the farmer remains about

the same. Neither spring nor summer, nor autumn nor winter brings a vacation for the 'Independent" Farmer. His independence alas is only a figure of speech. He is hemmed in by circumstances over which he has no control, and his vacation is, as yet, only a dream. But it is nevertheless one of the things the farmer must do. He must learn to take a rest and a

it is nevertheless one of the things the farmer must do. He must learn to take a rest and a change of scenery. He must arrange to take his wife and his daughters off for a visit somewhere. The question of expense should not be considered alone. The renewed health and strength and the comfort brought into their lives is money well invested, and return interest hundredfold.

Our artist has made many interesting sketches of the scenes and incidents noted on this annual summer outing. The scenes are laid on mountain and lake and everywhere the tourist seems to enjoy himself. It may not seem enjoyment to you who live in a hilly country to see men clamber up the side of a hill as is shown in the right hand side of our picture. To you who live on the border of some beautiful lake, but which from constant association has lost its charm, to you it may not seem fun to spend whole days paddling idly o'er its surface gazing at the fleeing clouds. And to those whose lives are spent in the forest cutting and shipping lumber, it may seem strange that men should call it fun to build a house of rude logs, cook their food by a fire built outside and put up with discomforts from choice, which you endure from necessity. But it all depends on circumstances. What is food for one man is sometimes poison to another. And so it would appear to us if you came to the city in the summer to spend a brief two weeks. Yet there you would find a multitude of things to interest you which we have thred. There are countless pretty theatres kept delightfully cool by clever devices of ventilation. There are hosts of pretty girls on the stage and in the audience. Bright bits of color are everywhere, and the whole scene is one of animation and excitement. The orchestra strikes up, the curtain is raised, and the whole building flooded with melody. Just now the light operas are ringing with a famous comic song which has simply carried the people away. It is called "Boom ta raise dome the sum of the whole building flooded with melody. Just now the light country. It is destined to be the most famous song that the light opera people have yet pro-

country. It is destined to be the most same song that the light opera people have yet produceu.

And so should the farmer come to the city he will find plenty of amusement that will do him good. Almost anything that he wants can be had for the asking. The women kind of the family will doubtless be much interested in the great dry goods stores, and the summer is a good time to see them. They will also want to visit some of the places they have heard so much about, like the Auditorium Tower in Chicago which gives a view of the surrounding country for hundreds of miles. Of Grant's Tomb at Riverside in New York or Washington's Tomb near the Capitol City, He will also like to visit the Halls of Congress in Washington and the various public buildings. These are all interesting even in summer.

The importance and value from a commercial

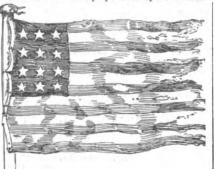
The importance and value from a commercial standpoint, if from no other, of a vacation ramble is one that is gradually being realized. The farmer knows from experience that the city dweller has at last come to a proper appreciation of its importance and we hope the farmer will not allow himself to be left much behind in the march of progress.

OUR NATIONAL SONGS.

"The Star Spangled Banner."—The most truly national of our songs is "The Star Spangled Banner." The poem, which has sent a patriotic thrill through millions of hearts, was written by a lawyer named Francis Scott Key during the War of 1812. Mr. Key was born in Maryland, August 9, 1780, and became district attorney for the District of Columbia. During the invasion of the British he was taken prisoner, and it was while confined in a British war-ship, during the attack on Baltimore, that the words were written. All the day before, the cannon had unceasingly roared, but still the flag floated proudly from Fort McHenry. The darkness of night had not wholly stilled the firing, and through the first faint light of a gray dawn Key looked auxiously out for the banner whose success meant liberty; whose defeat, a long, dreary imprisonment. When he saw it yet flinging its folds to the breeze,



although torn by shot and shell, he took fresh courage, and his feelings found expression in the words of the beautiful poem that we know so well. A manuscript copy fell into the hands of a printer, and was published on loose sheets. A young actor in Philadelphia chanced to see one of these, and was so impressed by them that he committed them to memory; and a few days after, while sitting in the club, it darted into his mind associated with a favorite air whose dignity and sonorous swing fitted it perfectly. Springing to his feet, he exclaimed, "Boys, I've got it!" and sang it to his companions at osc. They applauded it to the echo; and that night Durang sang it at the old Holiday Street Theatre, where it created the wildest enthusiasm. The air is called "Anacreon in Heaven," and was composed by John Stafford Smith, somewhere about 1770, to be sung by a jovial London society called "The Anacreonic." Francis S. Key died in 1843, and his fame has been perpetuated by a monument



by the famous sculptor Story, in San Francisco, at the expense of James Lick, founder of the famous observatory. In connection with the foregoing, it may be interesting to note that the first national flag ever made is now in the possession of Mrs. Samuel Bayard Stafford of Cottage City, Mass. It was made by ladies of Philadelphia from a design suggested by the coat-of-arms of the Washington family, which bears three stars. The commander of Paul Jones's famous vessel, "Bon Homme Richard," was deputed to fling it to the breeze from his ship, and, sailing down the Potomac, submit it to the inspection of the representatives of the thirteen States. It won their approval, and was adopted by acclamation as the national flag. Mrs. Stafford, now aged seventy-two, is the widow of the son of the man who nailed it to the mast-head in the fight with the "Serapis," and for this daring feat the flag was presented to him by vote of Congress at the conclusion of the war. Mrs. Stafford has not only the flag, but the original letter of presentation, dated Philadelphia, September 1, 1784.

"Yankee Doodle." — Less is known of this tune than of the other national songs. The of the other vertical contents of the other national songs.



"America." - " Let me make the songs of a "America."—" Let me make the songs of a ma-tion, and I care not who makes its laws," said a wise man. Our nation has not yet many songs of its own, but there are some that have sung themselves into the hearts of the people, and made there a place that cairot be gainsaid. "America" has thus acquired a kind of right to be considered a national song, al-though only its words belong to us. They were written by a New England clergyman, Samuel Francis Smith, a native of Boston, and Harvard graduate of the class of 1829, the same that graduated Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. Mr. Smith wrote the words to be sung at a children's Fourth of July celebration at the Park Street Church, Boston, in 1822. Regarding the origin of the music there are conflicting opinions, some musical writers ascribing to it a German birthplace, but the consensus of opinion mong the best authorities is, that it was composed by Dr. John Bull, about 1653. The fact that "John Bull" has become the typical name of the English people, lends color to this belief. Dr. Bull was an excellent musician and composer, who was any alorganist of the Cathedral at Hereford for many years. The music was first printed about 1742, having previously been in use in his choir in manuscript, and the words of "God Save the King" were written for it. It immediately became popular, and was soon recognized as the national hymn.

"Home, Sweet Home."—This may be almost regarded as a national song, so widely is it known. Indeed, there are undoubtedly many who can sing "Home, Sweet Home" who do not know a stanta of "The Star Spangled Banner."

It was written by John Howard Payne, a native of New York City, born June 9, 1792. He became an actor, making his debut there in 1809. In 1813 he went to London and became highly popular. After a while he forsook the stage for the pleasures of



NOBLE SENTIMENTS.

True friendship—one soul in two bodies.Pythagoras.

Kindness—a language which the dumb can speak, and the deaf can understand. - Bovee.

"Charity is a precious coin dropped into the hearts of men from the mint of heaven."

"Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops yourseli."

Habit is a cable; we weave a thread of it every day, and at last we cannot break it.-

A house is no home unless it contain food and fire for the mind as well as for the body.—Margaret Fuller Osseli.

Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns. I am thankful that thorns have roses.—Alphonse Karr.

"Music is the link which binds earth to heaven. It strengthens faith, brightens hope and fills the heart with joy."

If a man can write a better book, preach a better sermon or make a better mouse-trap than his neighbor, though he builds his house in the woods, the world will make a beaten path to his door.—Emerson.

The mind has a thousand eyes, And the heart but one; Yet the light of a whole life dies When love is done.—Bourdillon.

When to Fly the Flag.

Every shoolhouse in the land should possess the flag of the United States. If it is not displayed every day during school hours, it certainly should be hoisted on the opening day of the term, on the dates of the State and town election, when the President or the governor is inaugurated, and on the Fourth of July. The flag should also float on the breeze on the anniversaries of historical events occurring during the school terms. On these days special exercises in honor of the event will add to the children's interest in the history of their town, county, State and nation. An excellent list of dates is suggested by the Springfield, Mass., school board to be commemorated by displaying the flag on school buildings:

February 12, Lincoln's birthday,

"22, Washington's birthday,

"23, Leeferson's birthday,

"152, Jefferson's birthday,

"154, Jefferson's birthday,

"154, Lee's surrender,

"15, Battle of Lexington,

May 14, Springfield organized as a town,

"25, Foundation of Jamestown, Va.,

"30, Memorial day,

June 17, Battle of Bunker Hill,

"20, United States flag adopted,

September 5, First Continental Congress,

"17, United States Constitution

adopted,

October 12, Discovery of America, day during school hours, it certainly should be

adopted, adopted, a adopted, a adopted, a 1789
October 12, Discovery of America, 1492
... 17, Surrender of Burgoyne, 1771
... 19, Surrender of Cornwallis, 1781
November 25, Evacuation of New York
by British, 1783
December 16, Boston tea party, 1773
... 21, Landing of the Pilgrims, 1620
Also State and city elections, the inauguration of Presidents of the United States and governors of Massachusetts and opaning day of each term.—Farm and Home.

Method in His Madness.

"I'm going to give her this music box for a birth-day present," he said confidentially to a friend.
"But aren't you afraid that it will destroy your welcome as a caller?"
"No. Why should it?"
"Well, it only plays two tunes, and they are. 'Call Me Back Again' and 'I Won't Go Home Till Morning.'"

ALL LADIES

ALL LADIES

are beginning to use the new style hairpins that do not injure the hair in any way, being made of shell and amber they are smooth and delicate. We send you a set of four of these pretty souvenirs free postpaid if you secure one new subscriber for Comfort at 25c., as we are anxious to have all see the new summer features.

Morse & Co., Augusta, Me.



Y DEAR COMFORT FRIENDS:

I receive a great many letters saying something like this: "I hope that I may be accepted as a niece (or nephew), and that my letter will not go to the waste-basket." Now you know that I would be very glad to publish every letter that comes to me, if space should be given up to us, I do not see how that can very well be done. But no one need feel left out because he does not see his letter in print, or imagine to cousins. In every firm there is liable to be a "silent partner," don't you know? and in our circle there must necessarily be a great many, since our numbers are so large. The Editor very kindly gave us a much larger space than usual last month, and we must not ask such a favor of him again right away. Try to write brief letters, dear friends, and do not waste your time and mine by long introductions and extended closing remarks, which you will observe, by studying the Chats a little, never get into print. It only makes more work for me to cut them down. Then again, by writing a long letter, you perhaps crowd some one else out, and we do not want to be selfish, but to make room for as many as possible, isn't that the idea? Once more I must speak about sending real addresses with letters. If Cross Sabres and Violet will comply with this rule, I should be pleased to print their letters.

I have another report of the Cousins' Temperance Union from the president, giving full statistics for the year just past.

May 1st, 1892.

Cousins:—This is the 1st anniversary of the organization of our

Cousins:—This is the 1st anniversary of the organization of our society. We have 33 members. Report of past year as follows: Received:

Daes					. '			. '		. 5,30
Total			,							\$10.70
Paid: Pledg Posta Sent t	e	Si	te	-i	ns	٠.			:	\$1.50 .39 . 6.00
Total							. ,			\$7.89
Amou 1832										\$2.81

An election was held Mar. 18, which resulted in the choice of the following officers: President, Wm. Te Selle, Sheboygan Falls, Wis.; Vice-President, Mrs. Sopha Kupferle, 74 So. Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.; Secretary, Mr. J.E. Boyd, Lebanon, Nebr.; Treasurer, Mr. W. F. Laessig, Wonderly, Kans. To those who have not yet joined we send a cordial invitation now. "In union there is strength." It only costs ide. to join, and ide. quarterly thereafter. Badges 5c.

white man, what wonder that the Indian rebels and retaliates in the only way possible to him, by resorting to warfare? He has had enough of the white man's deceifful treaties, and knows that 'arbitration' is of no avail. There is no justice for the weaker party. You say that the natives of America had no rights which Europeans were bound to respect. What if some stronger nation should say that of America today, would you placidly give our country into their hands without a struggle? I think not. Yet that is what you expect the Indian to do. Read "A Century of Dishonor" by Helen Hunt Jackson, and perhaps you may get some new ideas on the subject. I am glad to find among the letters one which takes the other side.

other side.

"To Apache I say 'shake.' I have lived among the Indians all my life, and been to school with them, and I like them as well as most of the whites that I know. They are, as a rule, honest, at least about taking any thing that does not belong to them; and, as Apache says, they are crowding them back, and taking their and and as they go further west, the whites follow still. Then we blame them when they flight, when they are fighting for home, country, and all they love. I once read an Indian speech, and I think it was right. 'The white men came to the Indian's land and wanted but a place to build a wigwam and a little spot to plant corn. They were but a few and the Indian gave them what they wanted, and then when many came, they drove the Indian back and wanted all.' All who live within its borders can testify that this is a land worth fighting for. And as for their drinking, who is to blame for that?

So far I have excluded the discussion from "woman's

So far I have excluded the discussion from "woman's rights" from our column, believing that argument on that topic is so utterly futile, and productive of so much hard feeling, that we had better avoid it if possible. But Adam's Wife has thrown down the gauntlet, and so many are clamoring to answer her that I will throw the arena open, reserving the

"The Brethren as a church, had their rise originally in Bohemia and Moravia, whence, after 3 centuries of alternate prosperity and persecution, they emigrated to Saxony. Their renunciation of papacy more than 100 years before Martin Luther and the Reformation, makes them the oldest Protestant demonination in the world. Owing to their persecutions they emigrated in large numbers to America in 1735, going first to the colony of Georgia; but meeting with opposition and persecution there, they came north and settled in William Penn's colony, selecting a location on the Lehigh river, founding the towns of Bethielem and Nazareth in 1740. Now as to some of the customs of these people. One beautiful custom is to read daily texts at the early morning meal or in connection with private or family devotion. These texts are a selection of verses from the Bible for each day, with appropriate collects taken from the hymnobook. The custom has prevailed in the church since the year 1731. The daily words suggest food for reflection and often prove of the most striking application and encouragement to the pious and attentive heart. They have their lovefeasts. These feasts are anniversaries of memorial days, and of the different church choirs. These choirs are 4 and are as follows, viz. 1st. Married persons, widows and widowers. 2d. Single Brethren. 3d. Single Sisters. 4th. Children. These, except the last, always precede the Holy Communion. This custom, like the observance of memorial days, is not now generally observed by city churches. The day is always ushered in by the trombone choir, who play from the church steeple. We should say, however, that while the administration of the Lord's Supper to these choirs, is confined exclusively to them, the lovefeasts are not so. The members invite all whom they please to join with them. The feast consists of cake and coffee, and is served by both sexes, the sisters wearing small lace caps on their heads, white gloves and white aprons. After the feast is served to the whole congregation,

The study of botany is one of the most fascinating pursuits, and cannot help but lead to a deeper love or Nature, and a deeper reverence for Nature's God.

for Nature, and a deeper reverence for Nature's God.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—In answer to my request in the May No. for correspondents on geography, I have received scores of letters. My time has been too limited to reply to all yet, but I am still trying to all many the following States, viz.: O., Ind., Wash., N. Y., Ill., Cal., Col., N. M., Mich., Mont., W. Ya., Ky., Ore., Utah, Neb., Ga., Nev. Would somebody living in the States not mentioned, be kind enough to send me a description of your State? I am using an abstract of the letters I receive in my geography class, and they enjoy it very much. From several States is received many letters from the same locality but they were all interesting. I did not receive a single letter that was not gentlemandike or ladylike, and I am sorry for some of the cousins' sad experience. Still let us,
Speak gently to the erring one, oh! do not thou forget,
However darkly stained by sin, he is thy brother yet. Heir to the selfsame heritage, child to the selfsame God.

He has but stumbled in the path thou hast in weak-

Heir to the selfsame heritage, child to the selfsame God.

He has but stumbled in the path thou hast in weakness trod.

Why can we not have a society of King's Sons? Does the King have only daughters? Your nephew.

O. H. Nell, Holden, Goodhue Co., Minn.

I am afraid that you overlooked the notice which was given in our column some time ago in regard to the formation of a circle of King's Sons. Write to Alvin C. Dunham, Green's Landing, Maine, for further information. I want very much to see a large circle formed in our midst.

Dear COMPORT:— Nothing but my natural modests.

am airsio that you overlooked the notice which was given in our column some time ago in regard to the formation of a circle of King's Sons. Write to Alvin C. Dunham, Green's Landing, Maine, for further information. I want very much to see a large circle formed in our midst.

Dear Comfort:— Nothing but my natural modesty has prevented me making my debut long ere this, as one of your grand assemblies, but when I would read the descriptions of the beauties of Nature in Vermont, the wonderful Sierras of Colorado, the beautiful sierras of Texas, I would hang my head in humiliation and think, "What can a poor little Hoosier say?" But you know, Hoosiers are not exactly celebrated for their lack of self-esteem, so I will hold up my head as high as the best of you, make my very best bow and inform you, that if we have no mountains, that if we have no mountains, when he would all give half your possessions—and that is, this wonderful natural gas! Think of no dirt, no smoke, no wood or coal to carry, all the lightor heat needed by simply turning a key! Oh, it is delightful—for lazy men who sleep till breakfast is ready, little brothers who always dreaded bousekeepers, and financially cramped paler familias! Not only in natural gas, but Indiana is one of the richest States according to size, in substantial products; our educational system ranks the highest of any State of the Union; we possess the only man who ever wrote the great American got size, in substantial products; our educational system ranks the highest of any State of the Union; we possess the only man who ever wrote the great American got size, in substantial products; our educational system ranks the highest of any State of the Union; we possess the only man who ever wrote the great American got size, in substantial products; our educational system ranks the highest of any State of the Union; we possess the only man who ever wrote the great American got size, in substantial products, our educational system ranks the highest of the substantial products, our ed

Clear the way for a pugilistic

clad. Would like a short-hand correspondent.

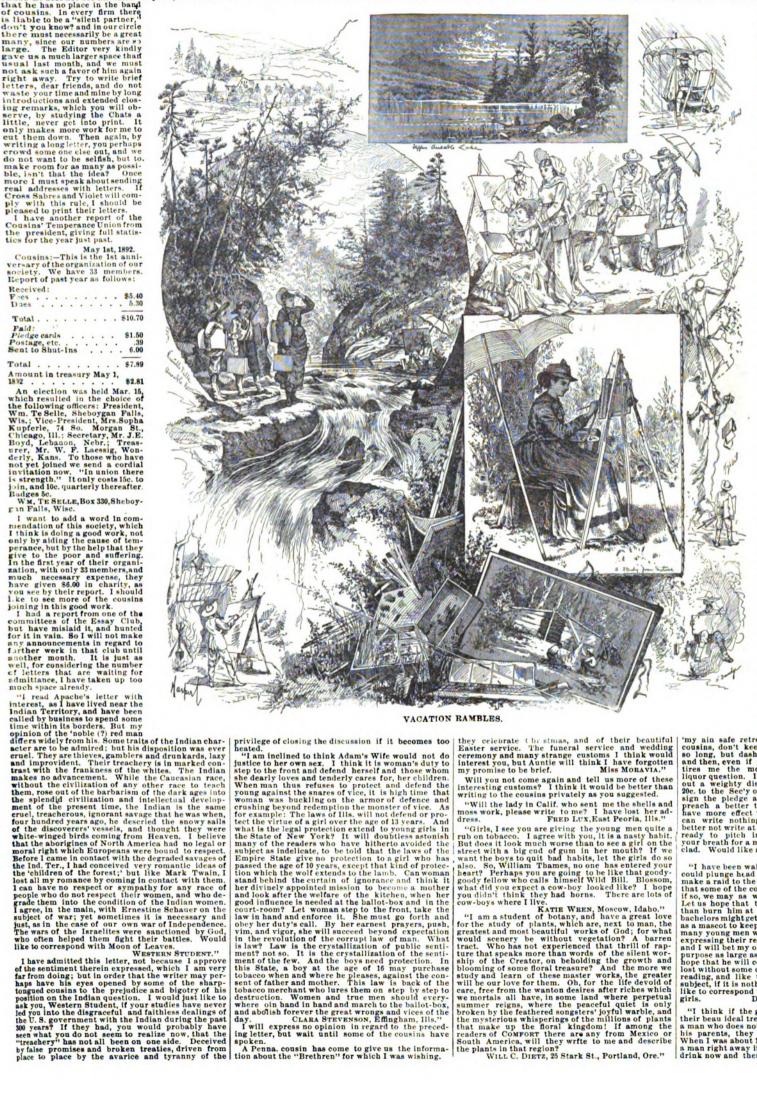
RAGING HEATHEN."

"I have been waiting for the time to come when I could plunge head foremost into the ink-bottle and make a raid to the rescue of Wisc. Wild Bill. I fear that some of the cousins have got their claws on him; if so, we may as well say good-bye, Billie, old boy. Let us hope that they will do nothing worse to him than burn him at the stake, that the rest of us old bachelors mightgeta piece of his charred bones to wear as a mascot to keep girls away. I think that a great many young men write to please the girls, instead of expressing their real thoughts as W. W. B. has done; and I will bet my old shirt that he has a heart and a purpose as large as the Madagascar Islands. Let us hope that he will come often, for the girls would be lost without some one to torment. I am very fond of reading, and like to hear a smart man talk on any subject, if it is nothing more than a dog-fight. Would like to correspond with some of those terrible ugly girls.

DAYE, BOX 152, Neillsville, Wisc."

"I think if the girls would look well to the way

"I think if the girls would look well to the way their beau ideal treats his mother, and never marry a man who does not have proper respect and love for his parents, they would get far better husbands. When I was about 17 years old, I thought I would be a man right away if I only used tobacco and took a drink now and then. After following that plan for



they celebrate the stmas, and of their beautiful Easter service. The funeral service and wedding ceremony and many strange customs I think would interest you, but Auntie will think I have forgotten my promise to be brief.

Will you not come again and tell us more of these interesting customs? I think it would be better than writing to the cousins privately as you suggested.

Will you not come again and tell us more of these interesting customs? I think it would be better than writing to the cousins privately as you suggested.

"Will the lady in Calif. who sent me the shells and moss work, please write to me? I have lost her address.

"Girls, I see you are giving the young men quite a rub on tobacco. I agree with you, it is a nasty habit. But does it look much worse than to see a girl on the street with a big end of gum in her mouth? If we swant the boys to quit bad habits, let the girls do so also. So, William Thames, no one has entered your heart? Perhaps you are going to be like that goody goody fellow who calls himself Wild Bill. Blossom, what did you expect a cow-boy looked like? I hope you didn't think they had horns. There are lots of cow-boys where I live.

"I am a student of botany, and have a great love for the study of plants, which are, next to man, the greatest and most beautiful works of God; for what would scenery be without vegetation? A barren tract. Who has not experienced that thrill of rapture that speaks more than words of the silent words in the stream of these master works, the greater will be our love for them. Oh, for the life devoid of care, free from the wanton desires after riches which we mortals all have, in some land where perpetual summer reigns, where the peaceful quiet is only broken by the feathered songsters' joyful warble, and the mysterious whisperings of the millions of plants that make up the floral kingdom! If among the readers of CoMFORT there are any from Mexico or South America, will they write to me and describe the plants in that region?

about a year, Hearned better; and althought it was juite an effort to break off, I quit entirely, and have how been free from the disgusting habit for over 20 years. I know girls who say they like the smell of a good eigar, and I suggest to such that they learn to smoke at once (it won't be much trouble), so as to be the equal of their masculine friends. My experience was, that beer never tasted so good as when I had to bacco in my mouth, and to bacco will wisker. They are very apt to go hand in hand. As far as my observation goes, girls as a rule set their standard in a man very high, but when they take a fancy to a fellow they bury their standard and 'catch no.' I shr't that so, girls?

The girls seem to be getting a good deal of advice lately from the opposite sex; don't you think it is pretty nearly time for the tables to begin to turn? There is considerable to be said on both sides.

"I like the purity of the atmosphere of our column. The letters are quife long, too, not mere notes consplictous for nothing but brevity. I am glad indeed when I find a paper like Costroit, where the leaves with surety of a treat in store. I wish we could all read Pansy's books. Her discussion of dancing settled the question for me. 'I will eat no meat if it cause my brother to offend, says St. Paul, and I will not dance if it cause my brother to offend, says St. Paul, and I will not dance if it cause my brother to offend in our crowded cities, no one can deny that there are dances that have ruined many a precious luman soul. There is the standard of the s

BROWN BREAD FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.

Frances Folsom Cleveland, who filled the place of first lady of the land with a grace that won universal admiration, can justly lay claim to a characteristic handwriting, and a most excellent recipe for brown bread as well. Here is a happy hint to housewives written out by "Ruth's" charming mother when she was mistress of the White House: -



Brown Bread. The sowl Endian Musl. Ohe bowl Ryn Flour. Tham In and one hay hours and bake from fronty muntes to one half depending upon his J. F. Charland

sociate members? Would—you accept as an associate member one who is a member of the church, but he does not wish to sign the active pledge because thinks there is a clause in it that he could not cep? I would like to correspond with some memres of C. E. societies, and exchange ideas about our ork.

ENDEAVORER.

How to get more associate members seems to be a problem with many societies. The only way I know it is by holding frequent socials, and then putting in plenty of prayerful, personal work. On no account idmit a church member to the associate list. If he is willing to so disgrace the Master whom he professes o serve, the society certainly should not allow him odo it. Our beloved Father Clark is always very imphatic on that point.

"I am a young Canadian girl living in the heart of

which is the greatest depth that mining has reached on the American Continent. We could spend a whole week inspecting the various workings without seeing sunlight. The lifetime of a man would hardly suffice for time were we to go through every drift, winze and shaft upon our famous Comstock Lode, Sutro Tunnel is 23,000 feet long and drains the mines. The water is at the boiling point and many miners have been scalded to death by falling into it. We have no manufactories at all, depending for them on Cal. A farmer would not vote this an attractive place for his calling, but there is some arable land which yields good crops when pressed by irrigation. Nevada without her mines is like the play of 'Hamlet' when Hamlet himself is missing. Now we hope the Eastern people will restore silver to its lost prestage. Then Nevada will be 'in it' with the other States of the Union. I wish some of the cousins would pity the ignorance of poor me and write me a few letters explaining the various terms they so often use in "I am a young Canadian girl living in the heart of the Bockies in the centre of Colorado, in small town of 3,500. The town is situated in a valley entirely surrounded by nountains. Ah, those mountains: Words are inadequate to describe their beauty and grandeur. Some clear cut, every point sharply defined against the sky, pale blue and snow-capped, others of the deepest, softest purple shaded to brown. The climate is beautiful, dry and very little snow in winter. It is as warm as spring, and one sees cattle grazing around on the hills all winter. The town lies between two rivers, one swift, deep and of a red brown-caused by the smelters many miles above here—the other very clear and shallow. There are 2 hot springs near here; invalids derive great benefit from the water. There is an extinct volcano 8 miles from town. I went to visit it once with a party on horseback, and within 2 or 3 miles of the crater we had some hard climbing, but the horses were used to it, and we rode within 200 yds. of the top. Correspondence solicited.

COLORADO CANUCK, Salida, Colo.*

Here is a spicy letter from Oreg.

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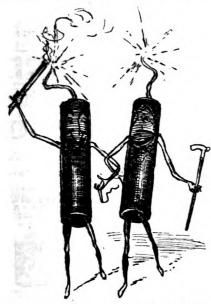


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THE FIRE-CRACKER.

What visions are conjured up by the mere name of the fire-cracker! Flags flying, grotesque processions, small boys with smoke-blacken d faces and blistered fingers that mamma is tenderly binding, with intermittent scoldings, — that is the sort of thing that the fire-cracker brings to mind, for is it not an



adjunct to the glorious Fourth which no patriotic young American would be without on that happy day?

And yet does it ever occur to that small boy that fire-crackers were the delight of other small boys, and the terror of their mothers, centuries before Columbus started out to discover us? Does he ever think of the little Chinese lads with funny little pigtails, and slanting, shining brown eyes, who played with them two or three hundred years before the Christ was born? Yet so it was. Nitre, the principal ingredient in gunpowder, has always been found in great quantities in both India and China, and the ancient records of both countries prove that gunpowder was there manufactured at a time when Europe was a howling wilderness of the world. Fireworks were the earliest form in which gunpowder was used, as oddly enough its ening qualities covered be-

ing qualities covered be

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were disfore its depowers. The
sparks that fall
ets sparkled in
and Indian skies
immemorial. The
er is supposed to be
form of explosive. It
times been said the noise
posed by the Chinese to be
driving evilspirits away, on
principle on which they still
drums and gongs during an
the moon to frighten the evil one who is darkening
it. It is possible that this is true to some extent,
although there is no reason to suppose that the earliest fire-crackers were actually invented for this purpose. From the simple little cracker was gradually
evolved the destructive cannon, which was used by
the Chinese in their war with the Mongols in A.D.
1232. It was introduced into Europe shout 1540.
Now, would it not be a good idea for the men who
want to treat the Chinese as if they were savage
beasts, to remember that little Chinese boys and little
American boys play with the same toys, find pleasure in the same anusements, look up at the brightness of the same stars, and are created by the same
Power? Does not that thought put a different aspect
on the case?

Called the Bet, but Got Left.

Some years ago an English engineer, now prominent in the official management of one of our great railroads, was superintending the construction of a new road in Pennsylvania. After supper one evening he strolled into the "settin room" of the country tavern, where some twenty men were seated around the stove, smoking and chatting.

A regular down east Yankee was expounding the remarkable strength of the arch, its use and application in mechanics, and illustrating his remarks by pawing a half bushel measure.

"You ain't no idee," said he, "how strong the arch is, if ye set it right—if ye know how. Now there's the egg; nothin's got a prettier arch than the egg, and if you set it right livs mighty strong. Why, I kin set an egg on this floor in such shape that ye can't break it with this half bushel measure."

A general murmur of sneering disbelief ran around the room, but the Yankee was game.

"I said I kin, and I kin, and I'll bet the drinks for the crowd on it."

The engineer hated a Yankee, and though a reserved man, he could not permit a Yankee to bluff a whole party with such an arrogant and preposterous and the party with such an arrogant and preposterous "I will take that bet."

An e g was brought in from the kitchen and handed to the Yankee. He took it and stood it upon the floor in the corner of the room, where the measure couldn't reach. Some years ago an English engineer, now promi-

nuts on the stage and in an instant the whole company broke rank, came down on all fours and began to scramble for the nuts. It was the baseless fabric of a vision after all. They were not soldiers, they were only monkeys. The dial shot back 20,000 years of the turn of aman's hand. The drill was not even skin deep; not one of them could hear the word of command when nuts were to be had for the scrambling. They had not won what we have won at prime cost, the power to answer to the word of command; they had only ears, eyes, paws, paunches and stomachs when these nuts were to the fore. Duty, drill, discipline and what would befall when the curtain came down with a run—these were all of no account, here were the nuts!

down with a run—these were all of no account, here were the nuts!

The origin of man is of impenetrable mystery. The awful mystery of life is but equalled by the awful mystery of death. None have ever yet returned from that echoless shore and we must be content to remain in ignorance of the fate that placed us here. Sufficient it is to know that He who doeth all things well, will in His own time and in His own way reveal His purpose. Meanwhile monkeys will never make men.

COMFORT FOR ALL.

An artist sat painting the sunset's fair hue, And said, "It is lovely, I have a fine view." A lady sang sweetly to music's grand swell, And said, "Ah 'tis wonderful, break not the spell." Two children plucked buttercups close by a stream, And happily sang o'er their childhood's sweet dream. Two lovers strolled forth in the twilight's dim glow, And whispered their happiness, softly and low. A mother sat crooning her babe to its rest And clasped it in tenderness close to her breast. The father comes home all his dear ones to greet, And bringeth them gently to kneel at his feet. The rich and the lordly, the humble and low, Each in his own way doth some happiness know. The aged and young, and the great and the small, In palace or hovel, there's Comfort for all.

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and barbs, and handy to use, anybody being able to the their line into the ring of the hook.

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The artificial flies and snells alone are worth the amount asked for the entire outfit.

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WY DEAR SHUT-IN FRIENDS:
I did not think that I should ever have to beg for letters for any of my columns, but I believe I shall have to ask for a few more bright, interesting, sympathetic letters, such as all the suffering ones, and every one else, to, like to read. Let those who are blessed with good health contribute to this good work. We do not want this column to be given up to tales of woe and requests for help, but that it should be what its mame implies—a Sunshine Corner. It may be a comfort to people to tell their trouble, and this corner is expressly for that purpose, in a way. But no one wants to be wholly selfish, and it is so much better to write a letter which will cheer some other suffering soul, than to only complain of one's own hard lot; and it will bring more happiness to the writer than to dwell on personal afflictions. "In comforting others, thou shalt be comforted." I know it is hard, dear friends, to think of some one else when our own cup of sorrow seems full to overflowing; but we will surely be rewarded if we make the effort.

Dear Auntie:—Will you not invite all the cousins, the strong and active as well as the sick, to spend the

friends, to think of some one else when our own cup of sorrow seems full to overflowing; but we will surely be rewarded if we make the effort.

Dear Auntie:—Will you not invite all the cousins, the strong and active as well as the sick, to spend the afternoon here? Such a host of kind and interesting letters as I have received since the April issue of Comfort, and nearly all the writers would be classed with Aunt Minerva's other band. No doubt many are wondering why their letters have not been answered, but just come here and peck into the desk where they have been stowed away, and the mystery will at once be solved. Let no one for a moment think they are not appreciated, for they have given me unusual plensure. But Auntie, several letters received have both surprised and pained me, letters of such a reckless. Irivolous nature that at first reading one almost feels disgust; then comes the thought "what must have been the education and the influences if young men find this pleasant?" then disgust changes to pity. My young men cousins, I wish you might realize that it is worse than waste of time to make our relationship through this dear little paper an excuse for writing the silliest of love letters. And just see what inconsistency in writing two or three pages of nothing but flattery, when claiming to see in one's face and words evidence of a pure, noble nature. I know that in many cases it is learned to consider such work fine sport, before comprehending that it gradually lowers one morally, just as many a bad habit is formed without seeing, until it is too late, all the little steps leading to it; but oh, I do wish each member of this great family to be candid and earnest, ever striving to climb higher in all that is good and true. Truly virtuous women have no longing to be called merely "pretty." but there is a desire to acquire that noble beauty which sincere, uns. Ifsh living brings. Faces decidedly not "pretty" have their beauty, the beauty that does not vanish as the cheek loses its bloom and the silver

MAUDE L. CLARK, Dushville, Mich. How often I have had similar thoughts about frivolous, slily people—what must have been the influences which have surrounded them to produce such utterly unworthy views of life? We who have been differently educated and trained, can have only pity, and often contempt for their narrow horizon, which is incomprehensible to one who has seen beyond into the great world of books and thinkers. "My mind to me a kingdom is" would be an empty saying to such people.

me a kingdom is" would be an empty saying to such people.

Dear Cousins:—May I step in among you again? I am afraid that some of you think me an impostor, for I told you that I would send specimens if you would send stamps, and many letters have been sent me that I did not receive. I have been asked to give a description of the cave near here. It is situated on the north side of Pine Mountain. The entrance is very small, and is surrounded by large boulders and trees; one enters it by means of a ladder or rope. At first one sees only a wall of impenetrable blackness; but as his eyes become accustomed to the light, he sees hanging from the roof what look like huge icicles. These are stalactites, and are formed by the limecharged water dripping from the roof. There are about 20 large rooms in the cave. The floor is almost as smooth as glass, with pools of cold water here and there. In places the roof is hundreds of feet above one's head, and there are fitful glimpses of adark gray ceiling rolling away like a cloud. There are no bats or rats, as in some caves; a profound silence reigns, broken only by the drip, drip of the water from the roof. I hope that Dr. Anthony's letter in April COMPORT has helped all the Shut-Ins as it has me. Dear friends, let us cling to life. Put on your spectacles and look around to find your chances, and seize them; and see if you cannot say with me, "I am heartily glad to be alive in this dear old world, as long as God sees fit to let me live. Many thanks to the dear friends for their kindness. I have many thanks laid up in Heaven for you all.

(Mr.) J. G. Nolen, Box A, Jonesburgh, Ky.

Your account of the cave is very interesting. I should think it might almost be a rival to the famous Mammoth Cave. Have any of the cousins ever been there?

Dear Comrades:—When I wrote last, I was in the far north, in Wisconsin. Since Oct. 4th I have been

Mammoth Cave. Have any of the cousins ever been there?

Dear Comrades:—When I wrote last, I was in the far north, in Wisconsin. Since Oct. 4th I have been in the Sunny South. Silver mining is the principal industry here; if it was not for the mines, this region would still be a wild, desert waste. There is but little vegetation of native growth, and for that matter, but little every the state of the state

How much pleasure we can give by a kind letter! Are not many of the cousins willing to do this little service In His Name?

Are not many of the cousins willing to do this little service In His Name?

"Please allow me space for a few words with my Shut-In friends who say 'reading the Bible and religious literature makes me sad, always thinking of death.' I am a Shut-In, not able to walk a step, and I do not know how I could endure to live if it was not for the comfort and hope derived from the blessed Bible. I will give you my plan of reading, trusting it may be helpful. In the opening chapters of God's book, we read how death entered, and all the race became subject to the King of Terrors. Yet when this sentence was pronounced, a ray of hope was given in the promise that 'the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.' Turning its precious pages, we come next to the promise made to Abraham, 'In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.' In the slaying of the Passover lamb, and the laws and ceremonies given to Israel, we see shadowed forth the Lamb of God sacrificed for us. And all the prophets, speaking by inspiration, forcefold the sufferings of Christ and the glory that would follow. Now we come to the New Testament history. We see

Jesus of Nazareth going about doing good, saying to His disciples, 'My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work.' And we see Him on Calvary, laying down His life for us. Consider what this means. We have been redeemed. From what? From the sentence of death that passed upon us, away back in Eden. When our Saviour comes again, He will deliver from death all the race which He has redeemed. This means freedom from sickness, pain and death, freedom from sin. There is a land where the inhabitant shall not say, 'I am sick.' The people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity, Is there no comfort in this thought? In reading the Bible, think not of death only, but look beyond the grave to Him who is the resurrection and the life, and trust Him to deliver in due time.

MARY E. PENNOCK, Virgin, Ohio."

COMFORT BIRTHDAY LIST. Mary Whitaker-Barfell, Lake Valley, New Mex., Sept. 13.
Daniel B. Robinson, Quarea, Eric Co., Penn., July Mrs. E. Jones, Alexander City, Talla. Co., Ala., Oct

wish to thank those who have sent me reading ter. My address has been changed, and is now Mrs. Angle Cart, Evona, Gentry Co., Mo."

"Will King's Daughter who sent 'widow's mite' to Miss Smith for S. E. B., also A Comfort Reader, and those who sent pieces for patch work, please accept the grateful thanks of both S. E. B. and the invalid

the grateful thanks of both S. E. B. and the invalidation."

Dear Shut-In friends—:I have long been a sufferer and can truly sympathize with you. I am a young girl, and my ill health has deprived me of an education. Dear friends, put your trust in Jesus. He loves you, and will never leave you nor forsake you. We think it is hard to suffer so much and enjoy so little, but if we understood, we should never get impatient. Think of the everlasting joy and happiness we shall know when this short life is over. Let us pray without ceasing that God may help us to be patient and to bear our suffering without a murmur. "The voice of Jesus came to me, Come, heavy laden one, and rest; Come, lean thy head upon my breast. No voice so kind, no words so sweet; They woo my heart, my passions still, The Lord doth lead we where He will."

**RIDEYELLE."

"I have just been trying to think how I can help the

"I have just been trying to think how I can help the Shut-Ins, and those who have not much money to spare out of a slender income. I will tell them a way of carning money. I make designs for wall-paper, oil-cloth and calico. I learned to do it by correspondence, and have never left my home; and I can say that it is an open and lucrative field for women who have spare time. It pays better than anything else that they can do, and is light work; any invalid who is able to sit up and use hand and brain can do it. I wish some of our semi-invalids could learn this; it would help them pass the dreary hours, besides paying them well. Any one wishing further particulars can write me with stamp. Mrs. M. Sue Commack.

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Roy W. Lyman, West Wardsboro, Vt.
Mrs. Rita Cates, Marysville, Tex.

Names of those wishing help, reading matter, etc.: Mr. B. C. Knight, Enfield. Halifax Co., N. C. Mrs. Elizabeth Mackney, Crocker, Pulaski Co., Mo. Kettie Esler, Oyster Bay, Long Island, N. Y. Mrs. Jennie Jacobs, Box 146, West Bend, Iowa. Mae E. Fishburn, El Paso, Ill. Mrs. May, Box 7, Cinnaminson, N. J. E. C. Welborn, Easley, S. C.

With kindest wishes to all.
AUNT MINERVA, (Care of COMFORT.)

An Encounter With a Panther.

The Punah correspondent of the "Times of India" of Bombay, describes an exciting adventure with a wounded panther. Looking in the direction from which a noise proceeded, he observed a large panther moving slowly along in the grass. He levelled his rife and fired. The panther fell and dragged himself a few yards, and lay there groaning. Going close up to the spot to see what effect his shot had had, the hunter saw that the panther had been very badly hit in the stomach. He made sure that the animal was dying, but suddenly the wounded panther jumped up, charged the hunter and sprang upon him. Again the hunter aimed a second shot at his head, but in the excitement of the moment he missed his mark; the bullet struck the panther in the hind leg, shattering the bone. To save his throat, the hunter put up his left arm, which the panther seized, and man and brute rolled over. The panther mauled the hunter's left arm very badly. Fortunately, he had a plucky native hunter with him. The latter struck his spear into the panther's throat and pinned him to the ground. This gave the hunter the opportunity of regaining his feet, and, having got up, he seized his rife and soon despatched the animal with a third bullet. Then, having bound up his wounds, he mounted his pony and rode back fourteen miles into Yeotmal, where he was fortunate enough to find medical assistance. The Punah correspondent of the "Times of India"

A Ready Excuse.

A rich gentleman purchased a parrot of a bird-A rich gentleman purchased a parrot of a bird-fancier in a rather low quarter of London. The man warranted the bird to be a splendid talker; but though the gentleman kept it for a month, it never made any sound approaching the semblance of a word. The gentleman called on the bird-fancier and asked him how he accounted for it. "Well, sir," said that worthy, "yer see, that there bird was brought up in my humble 'ome, an' I hexpect when it went to your 'ouse and saw all the bootiful surroundin's, it was struck dumb with surprise. I dare say it won't ever talk, now, sir; but in course that ain't my fault!"

A Young Money Maker.

In these hard times, your readers of failures and misfortunes may like a change and be pleased to learn of a way that any industrious person can make money. I am plating and replating jewelry, watches, knives, forks, spoons, etc. I made \$17 last week and \$13 in 4½ days of this week. I think this good for a boy. I bought my machine from H. F. Delno & Co. of Columbus, Ohio, for \$5. Any one can get circulars by writing to them. If this passes the waste basket, I will write again. Columbus, which is them. If this passes and lars by writing to them. If this passes waste basket, I will write again.

A Boy Reader.



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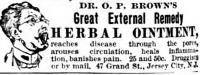
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Y DEAR YOUNG FOLKS:

Did somebody make a remark about Fourth of July? I suppose all the boys are laying in stocks of torpedoes, and fire-crackers, and rockets, and getting ready to blow themselves up and burn the town when that great and glorious day arrives. Did you ever stop to think what a funny way that is of having a good time, just making a big noise? But it is the way that people have always chosen to celebrate our national independence, and I presume they will keep right on to the end of the chapter. We must be patriotic at any cost. So if any of you want to come around and blow a tin horn and let off a bunch of crackers under Auntie's window on the morning of the 4th, you have her full permission!

"Would you like to have me for your little niece? I am 10 years old. I belong to the Church of Christ, and am trying to be a Christian. I ought to be a good girl, for my papa is a minister. I live within 10 miles of the Indian Territory. There were found in the territory the bones of a mastodon; it was 15 feet high and 20 feet long, and one of its teeth was 12 inches across. Would not that be an awful creature to meet if alive? Merlie S. Hill, Anthony, Kans."

I am glad to hear Merlie say that she is trying to be a Christian. Jesus loves the children, and wants them to love Him too; and it is easier to learn to love and obey Him now than when you get to be men and women. How many of the young folks know what a mastodon is, and how long ago such animals were alive upon the earth?



See Saw.
See saw, see saw.
SEE the sight that Dorothy SAW!
When Johnny went up,
Then Polly came down,
When Johnny came down,
Then Polly arms down,
Then Polly arms of her toes.
Till the hollyhocks tickled the tips of her toes.

"Il the hollyhocks tickled the tips of her toes.

"I will tell you a little about the country where I live. The city is built on the banks of the Missouri river, and is named from the large falls, which are down the river from the town. It is only 5 years old and has a population of at least 10,000. It has many fine buildings, mills, smelting works, and other industries. There is a beautiful spring called the Giant Spring, out of which flows half as much water as the Missouri river. There are the San Coulee coal mines which turn out from 1,500 to 2,000 tons every day. East from us are the Highwood Miss, on the southeast the Belt Mis., in which are the richest mines in this part of Montana, and on the west the great range of the Rocky Mts.

Rosie Maud Nelson, Great Falls, Montana."

I often wonder how many twins there are among

I often wonder how many twins there are among y little folks, and every now and then I hear of a air. Here are little brother and sister.

"We live on a farm, and have a mile to walk to chool. We are twins, and are? years old. We have colts and a dog and cat and 2 bantam chickens. When the snow is not too deep, we can slide down till.

IVY and IVAN LEYDEN, Andes, N. Y."

2 colts and a dog and cat and 2 bantam chickens. When the snow is not too deep, we can slide down hill.

IVY and IVAN LEYDEN, Andes, N. Y."

"I am a little wolverine, 12 years old. I love to go to school, and took the prize in spelling one term. I have a very mischievous little puppy; he will shake hands and jump over a stick. His name is Nero. Nero was a bad man, and my puppy is a bad puppy, because he chews up everything he can get. He is so fat that he is nearly square. I have a cat that is nearly sa large; his name is Eugene Aram. Eugene Aram killed men, and my cat kills mice. I wonder if any of our band are interested in geology? I have quite a number of nice specimens, and would like to get more. Last term of school two Indian children came, and they made me lots of little baskets. They are very curious. Yesterday I was over to grandma's, and she gave me a nice white quartz specimen. It was dusty, being old, and I got a basin of soap and water and went to washing it with mamma's toothbrush. I just got it nearly clean when mamma bore down upon me and took it (the tooth-brush) away. Too bad, but my specimen is nice, though. Do you think I am a "bother?" Amama said I was, because she made some pretty cookies and put a big raisin on the top of each one, and I picked them off and ate them. Please let me hear from some of the other "bothers."

I do not think I should have minded so much about the cookies, but if I had found you cleaning specimens with my tooth-brush, I fear that I should have "borne down" on you with even more emphasis than your mamma did! I would like to hear, through the column, from all the young folks who are collecting in any line. Tell us about your collections, the most curious specimens, etc.; or if you are interested in stamps or post-marks, compare notes with each other, and often you may be able to make some exchanges by writing. I wonder who has been able to get the largest list of post-marks? those are a very interesting study to me, and perhaps I can help some of you to get some s

"We live in the northwestern part of Minn., about 5 miles from Lake Itasca, the head waters of the Mississippi. My father came here 11 years ago; this was a thinly settled country then, the Indians roamed fashing. They are more civilized now, and work like white men; we had 8 or 10 to help thrash last fall. We raise wheat and oats here mostly. I go to school in the summer.

Dear Aunt Minerya:—I am a little girl 12 years old. We live in a small village called Cedar Grove. It is a very small place. My papa has a furniture store, I walk a mile to school. I go every day and am in the fifth grade. My teacher's name is Miss Anna

Adams. We had an exhibition in our school 2 weeks ago; it was so crowded that half of the folks couldn't get in. I had to speak the first pleee, had to sing once and spoke in 2 dialogues. My brother George takes Comfort and I enjoy reading it very much. I like the Young Folks Department best. My brother Willie got up a club of 6 for Comfort last summer, and got a hammock for a premium. My little sisters, Louisa and Phœbe, my friends and myself, had a lots of tun playing in it last summer. Oh, Auntie don't you wish that you could have had a swing in it?

ROSA E. GANTYOORT, BOX 98, Cedar Grove, Wis."
Do you suppose that the hammock would have held

Do you suppose that the hammock would have held Auntie, and Louisa, and Phoebe, and yourself, to say nothing of the rest of your friends? I don't believe that even a Comfort hammock could stand that

Auntie, and Louisa, and Phoebe, and yourself, to say nothing of the rest of your friends? I don't believe that even a Comport hammock could stand that pressure.

"My name is Bess, but I am hardly ever called that, for Papa calls me his little ranchero, Madcap, or Mischief; mamma calls me Bee, and Ned (my brother) calls me Miss Freckle. He is always teasing me about my freckles. You know what you said about freckles on the children's noses, Aunty? Well, when Ned was reading in Comport the morning it came, he glanced up at me with, 'Humph, I guess Aunt Minerva would have to use about half a dozen lemons on your nose, to take the freckles off!' My papa is a farmer, and we have a good many horses. I have broken two three-year-olds to the saddle, and have them tame enough for any one to ride. I love horses, and have one of my own, a cream-colored one which I call Colonel. I am 13 years old, and mamma says I shall soon have to begin to wear long dresses. Oh, how girls about that age hate even the words 'long dresses!' But mamma says I won't hate them after I wear them a year or so, and I will try to live through it. Often and often I wish I were a boy, but Ned says I only succeed in being a tom-boy. Ned is always teasing me and saying things which he thinks will make me angry; but I most always get even with him, so I won't complain. He and I are just learning to make cake. We made our first yesterday. Mine was quite good, but his, well, we were afraid to give it to Carlo, for fear he would sink in trying to cross the river near our house. But Ned is very persevering, and tried again to-day, with better success.

"It has been a long time since I wrote to Comport. I have had several letters in answer to my last one, all of which I have answered. Little Claude wrote me asking about Mormonism. Maybe I preached to him too much, I have not heard from him since. I will try to explain what our Primary meetings are. They are of a religious nature, and the members are under 14 years. We have a program prepared at the previous

Dear Auntie:—I am a little girl 5 years old. We have 5 cats, and one of them is mine; her name is Boots. I also have a little red hen named Golden-rod. She and Boots will play hide-and-seek together, Boots will hide behind something, and the chicken will go and find her, and then she will jump out at her.

Your little niece,

ETHEL MANHALL, Willow City, N. D.



A FISH STORY.

"One time," said Tommy, aged ten, "I caught a big trout. It weighed so much my father had to come and pull it out." it out."
"That's nothin' 't'all," said Cousin Fred, "one day I

caught a crab
And pulled him out all by myself; you oughter seen him grab!
He took the bait right in his claws and never once let

go, 'Till papa said he guessed he'd have to ampertate my toe."

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Would you accept a little niece from southwestern Nebraska? This part of the country was visited by a drouth, and consequently there were not much crops raised. Stock have to depend on buffalo grass for feed. For the benefit of my Eastern cousins, I will describe this grass. It is a wild grass that grows during the months of May and June, about 3 inches high, cures on the ground, and will stand until the next summer if not grazed off. I am 13 years old, and live on a farm. My papa is postmaster at Cornell, and I get lots of papers but I like COMFORT best of all. We have a kind of little owls here that live in prairie-dog towns. I would like to have some of the cousins write to me.

ANGIE D. UNDERHILL, Cornell, Nebr.

I think I see the Editor getting ready to say "you

I think I see the Editor getting ready to say "you have talked enough this time;" so I will say goodbye.

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Gives to you can Interpret any Dream.
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will be: the Love Letter Charm; how soon
you will Marry, and what Fortune you will have;
Whether how to make the Lucky Dream.
Teaches how to make the Lucky Dream of the Love Letter Charm; how soon
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Cousin Hebe's Reflections.

ROBABLY selfishness reaches its height when an old man who has married a young wife does all that he can in his will to prevent her from marrying again. An extraordinary instance of the unreasonableness which such testators sometimes display was related in an article on "Whimsical Wills" in "The Globe" the other evening. An old country squire, who had married a pretty girl some forty years younger than himself, left her by his will an annual income of \$1,000. On remarriage the young and attractive widow was to lose one-fith of this income. So far, the old testator had done what very many husbands bequeathing annuties to their wives do; but here comes the direction in which he showed himself to be superior to ordinary men. When his wife remarried, not only was she to lose part of her income—she was to run the gauntlet of his petty revenge. On the birth of her first child of her second marriage, she was to lose another fifth of her income. and every additional child was to involve the loss of £100 a year.

To a large extent the law already recognizes the undesirability of conditions in restraint of marriage; in certain instances they are void. In a case tried many years ago a testator gave his daughter a legacy, payable on her marriage or twenty-first birthday, but upon condition that she should not marry a man with less than \$500 a year. It was held that the condition was void, the decision being based on what is known to lawyers as public policy. But the law has not arrived at any stage of consistency in this matter; for

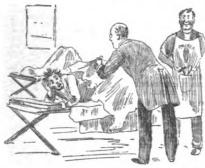


conditions imposed by testators on legatees that they should not marry certain persons, whose names are given, or natives of a particular country, or members of a specified religious sect, or domestic servants, have been upheld by the courts.

have been upheld by the courts.

A celebrated German physician was once called upon to treat an aristocratic lady, the sole cause of whose complaint was high living and lack of exercise. But it would never do to tell her so, so his medical advice ran thus: "Arise at five o'clock, take a walk in the park for one hour, then drink a cup of tea, then walk another hour, and take a cup of chocolate. Take breakfast at eight." Her condition improved visibly, until one fine morning the carriage of the baroness was seen to approach the physician's residence at lightning speed. The patient dashed up to the doctor's office, and on his appearing on the scene she gasped out: "Oh, doctor, I took the chocolate first." "Then drive home as fast as you can," ejaculated the astute disciple of Esculap, rapidly writing a prescription, "and take this emetic. The tea must be underneath." The grateful patient complied. She is still improving.

In an isolated hospital ward, were two patients, no a very nervous and timid fellow, the other a



very sick man. The very sick man died, and the timid fellow lay, trembling with fear, in a bed near by him. To relieve the timid patient of his unattractive companion, a hospital orderly was told to remove the corpse to the dead-house. The orderly proceeded to obey with alacrity, and, on entering the room, found the two men, one (the corpse) lying on his side, knees drawn up, apparently asleep; the other (the timid chap) stretched out stiffly, with the sheet pulled up over his face. Naturally supposing the one with the sheet spread over him to be the corpse, he proceeded to remove him. The patient, quaking all over with fear, groaned: "Oh, don't-don't take me; I'm not dead." Whereupon, the orderly, in disgust, blurted out: "What's the matter with you? Do you think you know more than the doctors do?"

TO CLUB GETTERS.

We call special attention to premium offers in the month's number and trust special effort will be made to obtain new subscribers, for we know with the Hollday Edition to show your friends with its many interesting features it will be much easier to obtain subscribers than ever before. The Dress Chart, Hammock, Fisherman's Outfit, Remnants, Photo Outfit and other offers are all worthy of your acceptance.

THE MYSTIC CASTLE

We trust our readers will pardon our Editor for brief space devoted to the Mysteries this month only having space for solutions now.

Welcome to Nimbus, So So and all recent recruits. Hope to hear from you every month. Send both puzzles and solutions.

Every puzzler interested in the "square" should contribute an original one for the "square issue" which will appear in the September number of Comfort. The best ones will be published and also a prize will be awarded to the best short article (not to exceed two hundred words) concerning the "square." All contributions in this competition should be marked "for the square issue" and must be received before August 1, 1892. The result of the "Gold Medal Tournament," which has aroused much enthusiasm among our solvers, resulting in many complete lists of solutions monthly, will be announced in the "square issue."

Fred Daily and John Miles:—The puzzles are not intricate enough. Try again.

Since my last journey, puzzles have been received

Fred Daily and John Miles:—The puzzles are not intricate enough. Try again.

Since my last journey, puzzles have been received and accepted from, Lomax, 8; Nimbus, 4; Maj, U. Telle, So So, S. Payne, Roland, Tordre, Nuisance and G. Whizz, 3; A. Penanink, Harry Norman and Hi A. Watha, 2; Aspiro, J. C. M., Waldemar, Maineac, Jupiter and Nosneb Benson, one cach.

The solvers to April "Mystic Castle" are as follows: Completes:—Ed Ward, Doc, Arty Fishel, N. Igma, Nimbus, Hereules, Ypsie and Eglantine, Il each.

Incompletes:—P. A. Stime, Chance, W. E. Wiatt and Sphinx, Id; Beb, 9 1-2; Waldemar, Tyro, U. Telle and Tordre, 9; Frank, Minne A. Polfs, Ben Net, Roland, Hi A. Watha and M. H. Dick, 8; Misses Josie and Daisy Bourjal, 7; C. E. Bechtel, 6; A. Penanink, 6; Pat Riot, S. Payne and Nosneb Benson, 4; G. Whizz, 2; Fanoy, L. F. Courtney, Eugene, Junius and E. Lucy Date, one each.

Prize-winners:—I. Ed ward. 2. Doc. 3. Roland.

4. Frank.

N. Igma:—Cony of your department received. It

Prize-winners:—l. Ed_Ward. 2. Doc. 3. Roland. 4. Frank.
N. Igma:—Copy of your department received. It presents a very neat and attractive appearance. Success to it! Many thanks for fine list of solutions.
Address all communications concerning "The Mystic Castle," to Oldcastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y., signing right name and address as well as nom de plume to all correspondence.
Your dear old Mystic Friend, OLDCASTLE.

SOLUTIONS TO APRIL'S MYSTERIES. No. 282. "Be fit to live that ye may be fit to die.", No. 288. No. 294. Itself.

PSEUDODOX SERRATED ERRATIC URANUS DATUM OTIS DEC

No. 295. Flag-ell-ate. No. 296.

No. 296.

D1 F F A R R E A TION S

G E MITOR R E S

T U T T I E S

S E A L Y

R 1 E

L

No. 297. Tavern-keeper.

No. 298.

PRIMER
RANULA
INSTAR
MUTINE
ELANUS
RAREST No. 299. No. 391. C A L T R A P A P O R E M A L O R I M E R T R I G O N S R E M O V A L A M E N A G E P A R S L E Y

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A Year Ago,
A cross the Sea, [Roses, All Among the Summer All Among the Summer All Among the Summer Ing Lindens, Down Below the War-Ing Lindens, Down Below the War-Ing Lindens, Down Went the Capbroom of this in the Morning Stream, Stream, Call and John Went the Capbroom of the War-Ing Lindens, Down Went the

Jenny in the Orchard, 1. Ma Katey's Letter, 2. Ma on this Blest 3. Tears 70 ry and John..... turned round,..... filled her eyes,.... on this Bi Morn, Little Annie Little Annie
Rooney,
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Slumbers,
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Bailing,
Touch the Harp Gently,
My Pretty Louise,
The above section of the popular song, "Mary and John,"
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FINING OF Months of the Nevermore,
World You't Full Me
Why, Robin,
Why Tarries My Love?
Wat! Wst! Wst! Wst! Wst!
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A WESTERN ELAINE.

The Story of a Girl's Broken Heart.

BY CLAY M. GREENE.

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CHAPTER I.

"What yer readin', Mister?"

I looked up from my book and glared at the intruder, but the momentary expression of displeasure was soon softened into one of interest. For the person who had interrupted my solitary hour with Tennyson, commended himself to me at once, as being one of those strange specimens of humanity, who, to the student of human nature might become an interesting subject of analysis. Almost everyone imagines himself to be a reader of faces, and I am no exception. He was not altogether a stranger to me, for I had seen him but a few moments before paddling on the river at the foot of the bluff on the edge of which I sat. But when the strange craft that carried him—a primitive dug-out, fashioned from the trunk of a pine tree—had glided into the shadows of the stunted cypresses that lined the river's edge, both the boat and its solitary occupant passed out of my mind. Now a new interest was awakened, and for a moment I studied him closely, without replying to his abrupt, if not impertinent query.

He was a man of apparently forty-five years of age; his figure tall and erect, and a mass of iron gray hair fell from under his sombrero in a tangled mass about his shoulders. His face was almost hidden by a bushy growth of beard, and his piercing eyes, gray and sad, seemed to reflect a heart that had borne its weight of care. His dress was totally different from that of the men I had noticed about Monterey, for he was dressed in soiled buckskin from head to foot. and I became impressed with the idea that I had at last met with one of those strange ideals of the sensational western novelist.

As I drew this momentary mental photograph of him, he repeated the question that had first broken my reverie:

"What yer readin'?"

"Tennyson."



THE OLD MAN ROSE TO A SITTING POSTURE.

THE OLD MAN ROSE TO A SITTING POSTURE.

In as few words as possible I recounted the touching experiences of this misguided heroine, from her first meeting with Launcelot to the place where, in the words of the poet:

"—the dead,
Steered by the dumb, went upward with the flood."

"My God!"
I looked up in surprise. The sad white face had in a second undergone a startling metamorphosis. The cheeks were flushed, the cold gray eyes flashed with anger, and the lips quivered with excitement.

"What is the matter?" I asked.

"Mister, wher did Tennyson git that story?"

"I cannot say, but it is probably a child of his own fancy, a bit of poetic romance."

"No t'aint Mister, no t'aint! That ere story's as true as the blue o' them skies; true as the wind that's a sighin' above them pines now; true as the roar o' them breakers on the rocks at Cypress Point. Fur it happened right ther on the bend o' the river, whar yer see that old adobe; and the bells as that book says tolled fur her death wasn't rung in England, but over at the foot o' the hills thar, from the towers o' the Mission Church."

"You have awakened a strange interest in me, my friend; won't you sit down?"

He sat upon the fragrant cushion of pine needles beside me, and cast a long wistful, tearful glance at the book I held in my hand.

"What did you mean when you told me that story was true?" I asked.

"Jest what I said, Mister. Elaine was my gal Phœbe, Launcelot was a feller from 'Frisco named Roberts, and—what did you say the queen's name was?"

"Guinevere."

"Wall, she was a grand lady visiting at the Hotel Del Monte. And, Mister, the Lord of Astolat was me!"

"Do you mind telling me the story in your own way?"

"Do you mind telling me the story in your own way?" There was no reply; for the stranger threw himself upon his face, his gaunt frame quivered with emotion, and sobafter sobstirred the

himself upon his face, his gaunt frame quivered with emotion, and sob after sob stirred the silence of the pines. I had bent forward in the hope that the touch of a friendly hand might staunch the flow of grief, when I heard the tramp of heavy feet, and a new comer appeared upon the scene, knelt beside the old man, and spoke to him eagerly in Spanish. "Que Tienes, Capitano?"

The new comer was one of the few remaining types of the California Mission Indian. Rather short of stature, with a skin dark almost as that of a negro; a heavy growth of wiry, black hair straggled down his shoulders to the back and, to use a modern phrase, was "banged" low upon his forehead. He wore a pair of very ragged military trousers, with a flaring red shirt; and although the thermometer that afternoon must have registered 80 degrees Fahr., a heavy gray blanket was thrown about him. Receiving no reply to his earnest appeal, he leaned closer to the prostrate form of the "Capitano" and repeated it with even more emphasis than at first. The old man rose to a sitting posture, took hold of the Indian's wrist with a convulsive clasp, and spoke to him in his own tongue. "Sancho, fel me ha dicho la historia de mi hija"

with a convulsive clasp, and spoke to him in his own tongue.

"Sancho, fel me ha dicho la historia de mi hija perdidal" (Sancho, he has told me the story of my lost daughter!)

"Como?" (How?) asked the Indian h. aston-

with bated breath, and a tremulous he old man repeated to Sancho what I

THAR SHE IS NOW, IN HER OLD SEAT.

concluded must be a Spanish version of the same story I had told him. What a sight were those two faces as I eagerly listened to the recital in a tongue I could not understand! The old man's voice was tremulous and faltering, and he stopped now and then to brush away the hot tears from his bronzed cheek. Sancho, true to the instincts of his race, remained stolid and apparently indifferent; but from the depths of his piercing black eyes, there seemed to flash an expression of bitter hatred, and when he had heard all, he glared at the book in my hand as though it were some enemy he wished to destroy.

"You don't understand Spanish, Mister?"
On my negative reply, he continued:
"And he don't speak no English," pointing to the Indian. "But I wanted him to know, and now I'll tell yer the whole thing jest as it happened, and then you kin see it's the self-same story as is printed into that ere book. But hold on!" and he pointed to the distant hills.
"See that house on the hill yonder?"
"Yes."
"See where the settin' sun shinin' on the

"See that house on the hill yonder?"
"Yes."
"See where the settin' sun shinin' on the winders makes it look like a light?"
"Yes."

"Yes."
"Well that ere's my clock. I stand on this very spot every day jest at sunset, and that glitter warns me it's time to go home, to the old woman wot's waitin' fur me over yonder in the old adobe. So I'll have to quit yer now, but I'll tell yer the story to-morrow."
"I shall not be here then," I replied; "for urgent business will call me to the city. But I am deeply interested in the strange co-incidence you have mentioned, and should like to hear it through."
"Would yer mind comin' home with me then, and havin' a bite o' supper with me and the old woman?"
"I should desire it above all things."

"Would yer mind comin' home with me then, and havin' a bite o' supper with me and the old woman?"

"I should desire it above all things."

"Come on then, and we've got to hurry or she'll be a worryin'."

With a nod to Sancho, he led the way toward the river. Not a word was spoken as we silently trod the circuitous trail down the cliff, and, arriving at the water's edge, the old man pointed to the boat, and I took my place in the bow. He seated himself amidships, and the Indian, with a dexterous movement, pushed the boat into the stream, took his place in the stern, and, paddle in hand, pointed her prow toward the bend in the river which the old man had spoken of. It was a weird, almost fantastic picture. The setting sun just disappearing behind the western sea, casting long shadows from the pines upon the placid surface of the water; the rudely constructed boat, with its three strangely contrasted occupants, gliding along noiselessly through the twilight.

The silence was almost painful; not even the dip of the paddle in the water, nor the ripples in our wake giving forth the faintest sound. The old man, his hands clasped about his knees. kept his eyes fastened upon the cliff we had just left, and his entire bearing was one of utter obliviousness to his surroundings. The silent steersman plied his paddle in a measured and mechanical way; while his face bore the same stolid, malignant expression I had noticed before.

Finding myself almost dropping into the beligt that I myst have faller the server was a prosent and the region of the paddle in the cliff we had just left, and his entire bearing was one of utter obliviousness to his surroundings. The silent steersman plied his paddle in a measured and mechanical way; while his face bore the same stolid, malignant expression I had noticed before.

mechanical way; while his face bore the same stolid, malignant expression I had noticed before.

Finding myself almost dropping into the belief that I must have fallen asleep among the pines on the cliff, and that this uncanny voyage in the mysterious dug-out must be some strange dream, I satisfied myself as to its reality by breaking the silence:

"My friend, you have not told me your name."

"Call me Thompson—that'll do."

"Have you lived in this neighborhood long?"

"Yes."

"How long?"

"I'll tell yer by and by."

His replies to my interrogatories were given in a listless, indifferent manner, which obviously betokened a repugnance to conversation, for the time being, at least, so I permitted silence to reign again.

For the next twenty minutes we glided noiselessly through the gathering shadows, when the boat's prow was turned toward the shore and with a sigh of relief, and a pang of satisfaction, I became aware that we had reached the objective point of our journey. Sancho stepped into the shallow water and pushed the boat high up on the shore, and unbidden by my new friend Thompson, I rose from my position in the bow and stepped out upon the land. Sancho, quite indifferent to our presence, sat upon the boat, rested his chin in the palms of his hands, and looked out toward the setting sun. Thompson turned to me and spoke:

"We'll go in the house now, Mister, and I want to tell you this one thing. I wouldn't a brought yer hyer, only't you don't know Spanish and I'd be afraid we might get to talkin about our trouble. That's somethin' I aint mentioned to the old woman sence it happened,

brought yer hyer, only't you don't know Spanish and I'd be afraid we might get to talkin' about our trouble. That's somethin' I aint mentioned to the old woman sence it happened, 'cause I feel that the least suddint start'd break her old heart. I guess you'll haf ter tell me yer name, 'cause the old woman 'll want to be introduced. For although we're poorer'n them crows over on the beach thar, she's got some o' them high-falutin' ideas she picked up among the proud old Mexicans afore Fremont took 'Californy."

"My name's Browning," I replied.

"Wall, Mister Browning, jest foller me."

I did so in silence. In a few moments we reached the summit of the little bluff on which the old adobe stood. Neatness reigned everywhere, and I breathed the balmy atmosphere of a thousand flowers. Lillies, roses, hollyhocks, heliotrope and mignonette grew all about me in luxurious abundance, and the white-washed walls of the old adobe were almost covered with a golden mass of nasturtium vines.

"Mister Browning, this ere little garden o' mine's my only care now, and I spend most all my time among them beds a beautifyin' on 'em, and a makin' on 'em jest as bright' n pleasant es I kin fur her sake. For its beautiful things I that softens the solitude uv a lonely heart. And the only beautiful things I kin give to her now is them flowers, nursed inter life by me, and painted by the hand o' God. Thar she is now, in her old seat."

wave of his hand, I beheld a dark-skinned, white-haired woman dressed in black. She had been seated upon a rustic bench in a small arbor, formed by an ingeniously interwoven mass of heliotrope bushes, but rose at our approach, and advanced to meet us. My introduction to her was brief, but evidently served its purpose, for with a stately bow, which one would hardly have expected from the wife of the uncouth Thompson, she pleasantly and quietly shook my hand.

"We will go in now, Mister," said Thompson, "supper is ready."

On entering the living room of the house, I was struck by the cleanliness and simplicity of my surroundings. Save for the rafters overhead, which seemed to have been discolored by the accumulated dust of years, everything was neatness itself. The newly white-washed walls, the well scoured floor, and the neat wooden furniture told their own story. My hostess was an excellent housewife. With a graceful movement of her right hand, and a bow that was almost regal, she motioned me to a seat at the table.

CHAPTER II.

CHAPTER II.

The meal was eaten almost in silence, and at its close my hostess bade me good night in Spanish, and left the room.

"She's a gittin' pretty old." explained Thompson, "and always goes to bed right after supper. She's asked me to tell yer this, so yer won't think she aint been brought up right. And now I'll tell yer that story, and ez its a leetle cold to-night, we'd best sit close to the fire. Smoke?"

I took the pipe he offered me and together.

now I'll tell yer that story, and ez its a leetle cold to-night, we'd best sit close to the fire. Smoke?"

I took the pipe he offered me, and together we sat by the open fireplace, in the glare of its crackling logs of pine.

"I come to Californy in '49 'long with Fremont. When the war wus over, and they declared peace we wus all ordered home. But I'd met my fust love by that time, and as she'd promised to marry me, and wanted me to stay, I got my discharge from the Colonel and settled down in Monterey. This sweetheart o' mine wus a heap better'n wot I wus, for her father was the Alcalde, and I only a sergeant in Fremont's regiment. But we soon fixed the matter up by havin' 'em call me 'Capitano' (which means Captain, you know) and that made things sound better, even if they wasn't.

"Wall, we wus married by old Father Sebiano, at the Mission Church, and I moved over here and went to ranchin'. We wus happy enough in our young days, and our lives passed along jest as smooth and as calm as that river out yonder in the moonlight. But no matter how happy a couple may be, no matter how deep their love, I tell yer, Mister, there's one thing that's always a cloud in the happiest home, and that's the thought that you aint got no little ones for to comfort you when you've struck the shady side o' life.

"Fifteen years we lived under this cloud, and, at last, one Christmas mornin', when the birds wus a singin' in the vines outside our door and the bells o' the Mission were pealin' out their welcome for the birthday o' Christ, our little one came to us. I took the little speck o' nature in my arms for the first time, an' kissed her little puckerin' lips, and baptized her with hot tears o' joy, namin' her 'Phœbe,' after my mother.

"Sixteen years went by then, so quick we couldn't count 'em. Sixteen years o' peace,

little puckerin' lips, and baptized her with hot tears o' joy, namin' her 'Phœbe,' after my mother.

"Sixteen years went by then, so quick we couldn't count 'em. Sixteen years o' peace, and quiet, and happiness; sixteen years o' joy, and love, and contentment. Phœbe had growed up to be what all the people in the valley said was the most beautiful human bein' they'd ever come acrosst, and when she was confirmed the parish priest told me to be careful and watch her well, for such beauty as her'n wus pretty sure to end in a flood o' tears. But I didn't dream o' such a thing, till they built the big hotel over in Monterey, and the crowds o' high toned people come down from the city. Everybody used to go over thar to see the dressin' and the sea bathin', and hear the music, and, o' course, Phœbe went too. She come home one night to us, with a look on her face I'd never seen thar before. Her little lips seemed drawed kinder into an expression o' pain, and thar wus a sorter far off, sad look inter her eyes. We asked her wot wus the matter, o' course, and after thinkin' a moment, and a twirling of her little fingers, she sat down on my knee and told me she was in love.

"Why, Mister Browning, if thet ere roof was ter fall right down on us this minit, I couldn't be more surprised then I was then, wen our little gal told us she'd given her heart, what we'd all along thought would be our'n forever, to someone else.

"But we didn't chide her, 'cause we'd neither

we'd all along thought would be our'n forever, to someone else.

"But we didn't chide her, 'cause we'd neither uv us spoke one cross word to her sence that Christmas mornin' when she come to us. I didn't go to bed till late that night; not ontil my wife come to me, as I wus walkin' the floor, and said she thought it wouldn't amount to anythin' no how. The gal was only a child, and the first infatuation seldom, if ever, lasts.

"I couldn't sleep though, and tossed about all night and studied the stars a peepin' through my winder, waitin' fur the day to come till I could see her and find out the whole truth.

"Wall, that truth come almost with the first "Wall, that truth come almost with the list streaks o'dawn, fur when I got up she was a sittin' thar on the door-step. I found that she was no longer a child—that her first infatuation wus one o' the kind as creep inter a woman's heart to stay thar forever.



SHE SAT DOWN ON MY KNEE AND TOLD ME SHE WAS IN LOVE.

"Mister Browning, this ere little garden o' mine's my only care now, and I spend most all my time among them beds a beautifyin' on 'em, and a makin' on 'em jest as bright 'n pleasant and a makin' on 'em jest as bright 'n pleasant the softens the solitude uv a lonely heart. And the only beautiful things I kin give to her now is them flowers, nursed inter life by me, and painted by the hand o' God. Thar she is now, in her old seat."

Looking toward the point indicated by the

fireside. And he was jest the kind uv of a man, Mister Browning, thet might win the heart uv any woman, for I tell yer, even with that great big load on my heart, he 'most won me. He was sorry, he said, that what he called 'a chance flirtation' should a been took so serious, and if thar wus anything he could do to make Phœbe tear him out uv her heart, he'd act at once. I thanked him, and when I said good-bye, thar wus a kind o' honest grasp in his hand wot told me he meant to do the right thing by my little 'un.

"I got acquainted with some people, and they told me this man Roberts had got hisself talked about, on account of bein' too intimate with a married lady from 'Prisco named Clavering. I told this to Phœbe that night, but she received it ez calm and indifferent like ez if I'd told her some bit o' everyday news; for she didn't believe a word uv it. With her, to love was to trust, and she trusted him with all her heart. Roberts didn't come over that day as he promised, nor the next, nor the next. And pretty soon we heard thar wus to be a picnic party over on the bluff, wher we met this evenin'. "For the fust time in her life, our little gal deceived us. She told us she wus goin' down to the river to read; but it wasn't long afore we saw her in the boat out in the stream, with Sancho a paddlin' uv her over to the Point. It was two hours afore she come back, and when she did, her eyes had a wild look in em, and her face wus pale ez death. She throwed herself on the sofa thar, and cried ez ef her heart would break. Me and the old woman done our best to comfort her, but it warn't no use, and between her sobs she told us that what I'd heerd about the man she loved was true. She'd been over to the Point, and crept up to 'em unbeknownst, and seen Roberts and Mrs. Clavering together. She heerd him speak words o' love to her, heerd him say that ez he could never marry her, he never would any one else.

"The little one wus sick arter that with brain fever, for 'most two weeks, and all the time ther wus but one word

waste away and die; so I went to the house waste again.

"Roberts wus glad to see me, and said the reason he hadn't come over to the house wusthat he s'posed his indifference might cause Pheche to furgit him. He promised to do something that day to end it all, and he come over in the evenin'. I don't jest know what he said to her, for they wus together in the sick room fur a long time, and I wus a waltin' here to have him teil me the result. He come out by and by with a worried look on his handsome for the words I spoke to that little girl. But it's too late now—I can do nothing. Good-bye!"

"And without sayin' another word, he passed from the room and out into the night.

"Pheebe growed wus, and wus, and wus, from that moment, and for five or six days wus clean out uv her mind. At the end of that time we heerd her a callin' o' us in the same sweet voice we'd been used to afore she was took down with the fever.

"Come to me, Mother ahd Father,' she said. I want to hold yer hands in mine, for it'll be the last time I'll ever do it this side o' the grave. I'm goin' ter die—the blow is too hard—more'n I can bear, more'n I can bear!

"We both tried to cheer her by speakin' words uv hope, but we done it with heavy hearts, Mr. Browning, fur we seen that the hand o' death wus on her even then, that the Dark Angel was a beckoning to her from the other side.

"Father, I want yer to promise me somethin' and the sum of the same were the want you to dreas me in the gown I more when I fust met him—the white one, I mean—and I want yer to place a bunch o' flowers in my hand, and with 'em this note to Harry.' And she took a bit o' folded paper from under her pillow. "When, she went on, when I'm gone I want you to dreas me in the gown I wore when I fust saw him, you know—and bury me ther. I want him to come, and he will if you ask him—tended to be a seen that the sake in my lonely grave knowin' he was near, and saw me covered up. Good-bye, Father—Mother darling, good-bye—kis me, both of you."

"She put out her little thin arms

book."

I placed my "Tennyson" in his hand, looked pityingly upon his tear-stained cheeks, and, with one of those sudden impulses which emanate from souls that are truly human; one of those bursts of sympathy which can only spring from the hearts of those who know, we embraced each other.

Then taking his hands in mine, I pressed them again and again, and with a fervent "God bless you!—good-bye!" passed from that silent house of mourning forever.

Slam Her In .- The story is told of a country editor who had met with an accident. When he recovered consciousness his rival was present and yelled in his ear: "I'm very sorry for you

"You are, eh; what for?"
"You are, eh; what for?"
"They say you've broken your spinal column."
"Confound that boy! He's dropped the form again. Fill it with slugs and slam her in."—
American Grocer.





first in the production of gold and wool. The mines of Australia not only produce the finest quality of gold, but they are the richest yet discovered. A single nugget from Ballarat, Victoria, was sold for more than forty thousand dollars, and the total exports of this metal since 1850, amount to over two billion dollars. The wool exports may be judged from the fact that Australia has almost, if not quite, a hundred million sheep—a single "station," as the ranches are called, having as many as two hundred thousand head. New South Wales also claims rich coal beds which according to careful estimates would supply the entire world for many years. Among other unique industries begun some time ago is the raising of camels for the work for which oxen and horses are ordinarily employed, and also for use in place of saddle horses.

Twenty-five king-doms the size of Great Brit-

ain and Ireland could be carved out of Austra-lia, and yet how little is known of this wonder-

work for which oxen and horses are ordinarily employed, and also for use in place of saddle horses.

Severe drouths have in times! past proved obstacles to agriculture and sheep raising, but recently underground rivers have been tapped with great success. A still more serious drawback to the raising of crops, and a source of incalculable loss every season, are the inroads of the kangaroos and rabbits upon the pasture lands. So alarming did the prospect become, that a few years ago the government of New South Wales offered, through its foreign representatives, a reward of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars for a means of exterminating the rabbits, and although millions have been killed, the trouble continues so serious in certain sections that many farms have been abandoned.

As the kangaroo does not burrow, and does not multiply as rapidly as the dreaded "bunny," it can be more easily gotten rid of.

By reason of the bounties offered by the government, and the successful use of kangaroo leather, their number has been greatly lessened. One of the exciting sports is the hunting of kangaroos on horseback, Swift dogs—a cross between greyhounds and staghounds—are required, as the kangarous are so fleet as to

able for its large size—standing several feet in height—and for its long hairlike plumage, and the lyrebird, so-called from the magnificent lyre-shaped tail which adorns the male, is the most beautiful. The bird itself is the size of a pheasant, while its tail measures three feet. Among the other natives of the Australian bush are brilliantly colored parroquets, birds of paradise, the black swan, love-birds, and the native companion. A sight the hunter will never forget are the large flocks of cockatoos, with white, black, or rosy crests, as they suddenly rise before him and light upon a tree, covering it with a downy snowdrift. But the most peculiar freak in feathers is the "laughing jackass," whose loud, prolonged, insane note, as he frightens strangers or salutes the moon, greets the earl like a sad mixture of the braying of a donkey, the filing of a saw, and the shrill notes of the steam calliope of a circus parade. When the hunter is trying to cautiously steal upon some game, it is one of the delights of this bird to watch him, unseen, and just as he is about to take aim, utter one of its paralyzing cries, startling the sportsman and frightening away the game.

In the vegetable world there are thousands of species of plants and trees peculiar to Australia, The trees are mostly of the evergreen order. Scores of varieties of the eucalyptus or gum trees exist here, some of which reach five hundred feet in beight, overtopping the farfamed redwoods of California. Another tree peculiar to this country is the bottle-tree, of which a representation appears in connection with this article

and is rendered peculiarly picturesque by the blue veil of mist which constantly hovers over its summits. Our illustration is from a point looking towards Sydney, the electric beams of whose powerful harbor light, fifty-five miles distant, are clearly visible. Here occurs one of the marvels of modern railroad engineering, the famous "Zigzag," by means of which the trains climb the dizzy heights of Katoomba.

A few years ago a party of Americans and colonists celebrated the Fourth of July by picnicing on these romantic heights. At noon they had climbed to the base of the last sharp peak, which towered above them, seemingly inaccessible. Among the party was a bright California girl and when one of the tired colonists turned to her with:

"Even you Americans must stop here."

"Not when there is anything ahead," said she, and before the astonished company could detain her she had gained the dizzy summit and taking from her pocket a small American flag, proudly



BOTTLE TREE

waved it over her amazed friends fr: below, A Kodaked picture of this daring girl is given above. A Kodaked picture of this daring girl is given above. A kodaked picture of this daring girl is given would be incomplete without a reference to the class of men known as "sundowners" who correspond to the North America a tramporation of the class of men known as "sundowners" the correspond to the North America a tramporation of seeking employment, be in reality they live entirely by he ging, for they rarely accept wen homeless vagabondage, and are regarded as a great nuisance by the owners of stations who have named them "sundowners" from the far who was a station after davided as a great nuisance by the owners of stations who have named them "sundowners" from the far who was a station after davided them "sundowners" from the far who was a station after davided them "sundowners" from the far who was a station after davided them "sundowners" from the davided by wire free into paddocks ranging in size from the drawbacks herein regarded as still the paddocks are watered by means of huge excavations called tanks, in which water collects during the was a sundowners of the sundowners of the

Harold Kinsabby.

out of Australia, and yet how little is known of this wonderland of the Southern Pacific. It has been aptly termed "the land of opposites," for the reasons, among others, that on the fact that is part of the colonia of the Southern Pacific. It has been aptly termed "the land of opposites," for the reasons, among others, that on the fact that is wans are black and eagles white, and that trees elbed their bark instead of leaves.

Australia is not only the largest island in the world, but covers an area almost equal to that of the United States. It is divided into six colonies, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Compared with America, its surface is marked by few mountains, rivers, and lakes, the central portion consisting of a vast dry plain, which is barren except in the rainy season. Its climate ranges from tropical in the north to temperate in the south, and the population is between three and four million, or about one twentieth that of the United States. Of this number a small portion are native blacks or aborigines, a race which is rapidly becoming extinct.

Of the leading cities, Sydney in New South Wales, justly boasts of one of the most beautiful harbors in the world, formed in part by the Paramatta River, where in times past have occurred the famous rowing contests of the world's champions, including Hanlan, the pride of America. This city, the Town Hall which is shown in our flustration, is of the size of Boston, Mass., while Melbourne, the metropolis of Victoria, also has a population of nearly half a million. The latter is called by many the "American city" of the colonies, owing to the fact that the gold fever of 1851 attracted many prospectors from "the States," who identified themselves with its growth and business interests. Its wide streets run at right angles with each other, while those of Sydney resemble the crooked, winding thoroughfares of Boston or London.

By many people Australia is regarded as a wilderness inhabited by savages, much as is America by foreigners whose only ideas HANGS ON OF H

a place of exile for convicts. Since that time, there has been a large immigration, chiefly from the mother-country, of hardy and adventurous pioneers whose energy has made the country what it is to-day. While the colonists naturally have an attachment for ment for English institutions and prod-

and enlightened nations.
On every hand public libraries, art galleries, and botanical gardens prove the culture and refinement of its inhabitants. And as for newspapers—that index of the standard of intelligence of a people—the press of Australia rivals that of other countries, and no paper, for instance, in the city of Baltimore, Md., can boast of as large a circulation as those enjoyed by the Sydney and Melbourne dailies. Although discovered by a Spanjard Australia rivarship in the city of the standard of the standard

Although discovered by a Spaniard, Australia became a British pos-session about a hundred

years ago, and New Bouth Wales was until 1840 used by England as a place of exile for con-

and products, scores of American enterprises have secured strong footholds and on every hand one finds evidences of Yankee ingenuity, push, and enterprise.

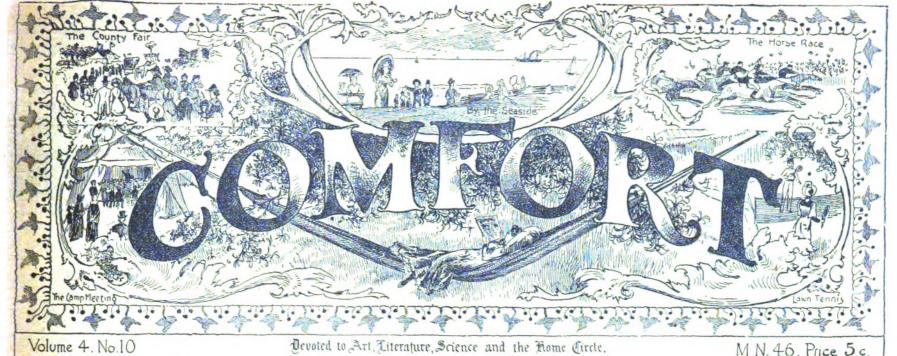
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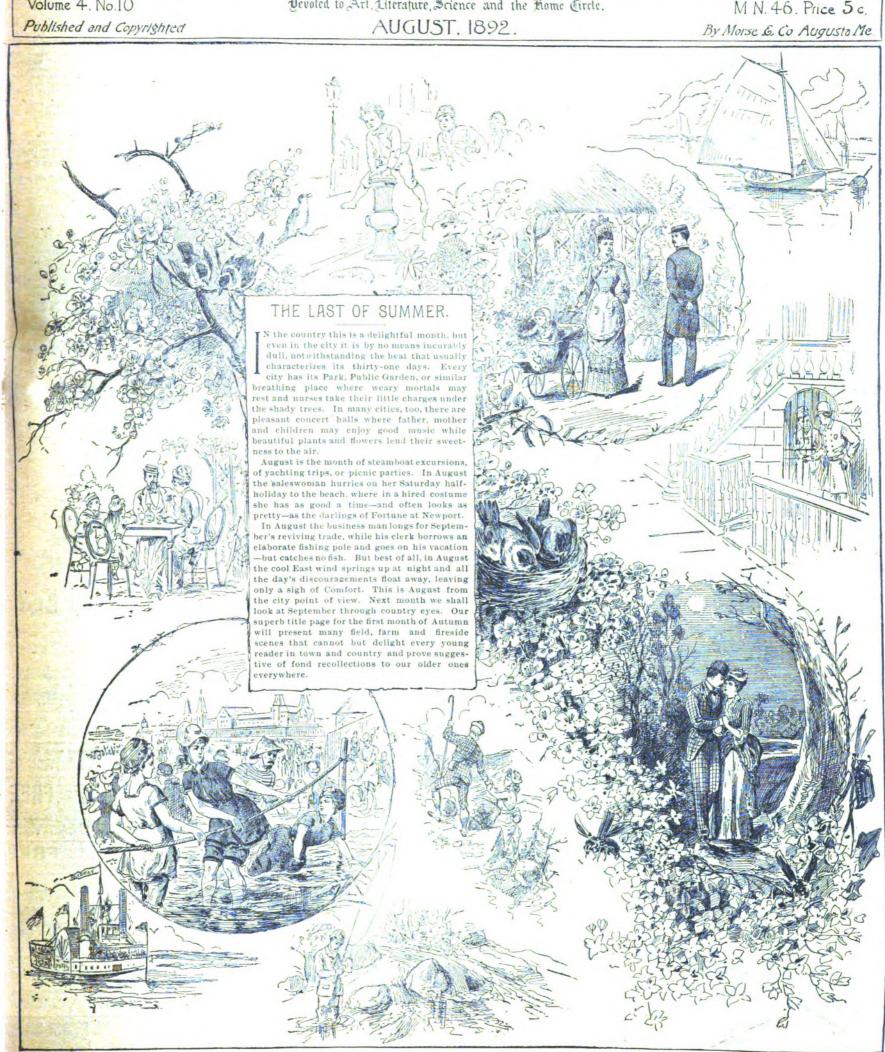
The natural resources of Australia vie with any other country, and it ranks

In ferns the country is particularly rich, having undreds of specimens not met with elsewhere, Some of those which grow in the blue mountains of New South Wales have branches over twenty feet long. This range rivals in grandeur some of the famous mountain scenes in the United States,

BOOMERANG

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THE FLIGHT OF RICHARD BERING.

BY MCKENDREE BANGS.

SYNOPSIS.

Michael Bering starts one evening to call upon his brother Richard and nephew, Richard Jr. Just before reaching the house, sees Richard Jr. leave in great haste; thinking there has been a family quarrel which is not infrequent, he returns home only to be summoned shortly to go to the house of his brother who has been murdered. Mary Irving, the ward of Richard Sr. is there mourning the loss of her friend. She hates Michael and has very short conversation with him. Richard's will is opened, which discloses the fact that Michael and Richard Jr. are to be joint executors. Richard Sr. and his son quarreled because the young man wants to marry Mary Irving, and on the evening of the murder they were alone in the library, and Richard Sr. wants Mary to have other suitors in order to be able to select a husband; Richard Jr. leaves room in anger, and meets Mary in hall, he tells her his father's wishes, and she asks:

"Is he going to bring these men here, or must I seek them, these men I must choose among?" In time the detectives felt sure that Richard Jr. had embarked on a sailing vessel for San Francisco. Soon a verdict was rendered charging Richard Jr. with the arime. Richard Jr. on discovering the body of his father starts at once in pursuit of murderer; tracks him to aceliar in a side street where, upon entering, he is struck on the head with a club and knocked senseless. Mary Irving quarrels with Michael Bering and one evening when he goes to the house to bother her with his attentions he found her gone. He did not fear that she had met with an accident. He knew intuitively that she had gone to escape him. Richard Jr. pursues the man and is struck on head, and while insensible is carried on board a sailing ship, about to sail for San Francisco. Many days afterward her egains conciousness in mid ocean. Makes friends with the Captain who sees he is no ordinary seaman and questions him and learns his story. When they arrive a the Cannibal Islands, Richard went on shore where he finds files of New York papers

CHAPTER VIII

RICHARD'S ARRIVAL.

T LAST their business was finished and the anchor raised and sail made for the Traveler. They were on the way to San Francisco. Richard thought hard and long of his affairs. He discussed them with Captain Thompson; but the good captain could only see that the straightforward way was the best and only way. But Richard could not believe with him. The testimony of his Uncle Michael seemed to him to have a deep and sinister meaning; e was convinced that in some way Michael Bering was responsible for the trouble and that he was determined to involve him, young Richard, in greater. He felt certain that he could unravel the mystery and expose the conspiracy if there was one. He felt equally certain that the authorities had committed themselves to the theory that he was guilty and, led on and encouraged by Michael, they would use all their energy and overcome the charge he must be free—free to seek the truth and free to fight.

The captain was obdurate and Richard found that whether or not he liked it he would be taken to San Francisco and thence in custody to New York; but on one morning as he came sould be taken to San Francisco and thence in custody to New York; but on one morning as he came on deek Captain Thompson said to him biuntiy:

"It have changed her course."

"Why?" asked Richard, of course not understanding.

"It is your affair," the captain responded. "You RICHARD'S ARRIVAL.

one morning as he came on deck Captain Thompson said to him bluntly:

"I have changed her course."

"Why?" asked Richard, of course not understanding.

"It is your affair," the captain responded. "You want to get to New York and you want to escape San Francisco. I'll put you ashore far south of that. You ought not to run away; but it is your affair."

So the good captain, at the loss of many days time, ran near the coast and Richard was rowed ashore late one afternoon at a convenient harbor. He had plenty of money advanced by Captain Thompson. He wasted no time and was soon aboard the fast. Eastern express.

The sun was just setting in the clear western sky when Richard lett the railroad train after his long journey. It was cold, but during the brief passage of the ferry boat he stood upon the forward deck lookwith hope and longing upon the sight he knew so well. Never before had the city with its many roofs seemed so full of promise to him. Even the cloud of smoke overhanging it was welcome in his eyes. As he walked through the streets afterward he felt exhibited and the slight click of his heels upon the pavement was music in his ears. He walked quickly to the house which had been his home always; but it had grown dark before he reached there. The city streets were lighted but in all the house there was no sign of life or movement. He was determined if he could to know before he should sleep that night something of Mary Irving. He dared not boldly ring the bell and ask, but for many cold and weary hours he walked to and fro before the house hoping that there might be some indication whether or not she was within and whether it would be safe for him to enter. At last, however, fatigued, he had to seek reat in the near by modest hotel to which he had earlier sent his few belongings. In the morning early he was awake and busily thinking what would be his best plan; but his longing to see Mary Irving troubled and confused him. As early as he could he was apain within sight of the house and all day he remained in

"Oh, my dear Uncle," said Richard aloud, "you will be late at dinner. I do not wonder you hurry. And I—? What am I going to?" He was tempted to follow his ungle, to face him and to force him then and there to tell him all that had happened to Mary Irving; and to promise to do him justice before her and all the world. He took a step or two in the direction he was going. Then he restrained himself. "No," he said, "my time will surely and certainly come. And if I am not very much mistaken, Uncle Michael, the settlement will be pleasanter to me than to you."

Michael, the settlement will be pleasanter to me than to you."

He turned again and walked on, now more quickly, toward Mr. Pearlock's house. At length he stood in front of it; but without hesitation he walked up the steps. At he was about to ring the bell the thought occurred to him that perhaps the servant would not admit him without a card or his name, but without lingering to formulate any plan he rang the bell violently.

"Is Mr. Pearlock in?" he asked of the pleasant-

Mr. Pearlock in?" he asked of the pleasant-

entity.

"Is Mr. Pearlock in?" he asked of the pleasant-faced maid.

"Yes, sir," she answered quickly, holding a waiter toward him as though to ask for his card.

"Please say a gentleman from California on urgent business wishes to see him," Richard said, and without more ado he walked into the parlor of which the doors stood open.

In the rear of the room, by a table upon which a lamp was burning brightly, sat a young woman reading. She rose as Richard entered and walking toward him said inquiringly:

"You wish to see Mr. Pearlock?"
Richard's heart stood still. It was Mary Irving. She walked on without looking further at him and would have left the room, Richard could not speak at first, he could not move. But at last as she was about to disappear he stammered simply:

"Mary."

Astonished, she turned to look at him. For a few

Richard's heart stood still. It was Mary Irving. She walked on without looking further at him and would have left the room. Richard could not speak at first, he could not move. But at last as she was about to disappear he stammered simply:

"Mary."

Astonished, she turned to look at him. For a few minutes she was silent and her face changed and changed again. Then, with a little cry, she ran to him and feil upon his breast and her arms encircled his neck till her hands met. She leaned heavily upon him, but he put his strong arms about her, too, and held her firmly. He bent and kissed her.

"Mary," he said, "have you no word for me?"

"Not yet, not yet, Richard," she answered in a minute. "Wait. Let me breathe."

At this moment Mr. Pearlock, who had been summoned, entered the room. He stood a minute in amazement.

"Bless my soul!" he said. "This is urgent business. I do not wonder you came from California. But who are you?"

Mary held all the closer to Richard; but she turned her face all blushing and her eyes all glistening with tears toward Mr. Pearlock see, see! This is Richard! I knew he would come back—I knew he would."

The old gentleman looked closely then at Richard and he tried to disengage one of his hands that he might shake it.

"Bick," he said, "don't think I would not have known you. I couldn't half see you, and you are pretty well covered from sight yet. Shall I go out?"

"Oh, no, no, Mr. Pearlock," Mary said as she disengage herself. Then turning to Richard she took his hand and led him toward a chair. "I am so glad to see you, so glad. I want to know so much. What shall I ask you first? Where have you been so long?"

"I't will be a long story, Mary, 'Richard answered. "And I cannot tell it all at once. But tell me why you are here."

"On business, urgent business," Mr. Pearlock broke in. "A very interesting case we had. Irving versus Bering. A pretty client and a skillful lawyer and a good case. It wouldn't have been hard to win would it, Dick?"

"Oh, Mary said, "don't let us talk about him toni

On the next day Richard received word from Mr.

Pearlock that he had already employed detectives and that they had begun to follow the clue Richard himself had furnished. "I hope," Mr. Pearlock's lefter continued, "that befor: long they will have something to report indicating some progress. In the meantime you must not attempt to see Mary and you must not come near me. Pray use the enclosed as you please. It will be easy enough for you to refurn it when your affairs are straightened out."

The enclosure was quite a large sum of money, far in the call why were you there? What did you come for? "Was it money?"

"The will," Bakeman answered in a whisper.

"The will," Bakeman in the train.

"What did you come for?

"The will," Bakeman answered in a whisper.

too large it seemed to Richard for him to need or to be able to spend living in the modest way which was a self-too the common the common to a step or beau toward with the self-toward him to be able to spend living in the modest way which was a Richard had not minder the circumstances. Between the could for further word from Mr. Pearlied, His days were very long; but hardest of all for him to be are was his inability to be with Mary. It was not to he present at so pleasant a wear of the could give the histown small rooms; but at night when he was no not he far Pacific. His days he spent pretty much his own small rooms; but at night when he was no on the far Pacific. His days he spent pretty much his own small rooms; but at night weathered with the was an end of the city. He often was not to be present at so pleasant a wear of the city. He often was not be present at so pleasant a wear of the city. He often was not be present at so pleasant a wear in the same house had been bidden, and be did not approach her. Then at other times he would go to his fathers old house and again and again he would go murder. He remembered very well the house his such misfortune and he often looked curiously at its wind his own small rooms; but he his own small rooms; but he his work more than the was nown bending over the dead man, he continued; which he had stumbled and where he had met with such misfortune and he often looked curiously at its wind his own and he was not so the tits windows, too, were always dark and there was before the his work manner had been as allet and he was an early to he his the window shows he will be not be the was a self-possessed as usual; but now his tits windows, too, were always dark and there was before the his work manner had been as allet and he was as self-possessed as usual; but now his tits windows, too, were always dark and there was a self-possessed as usual; but now his tits windows, too, were always dark and there was a self-possessed as usual; but now his tits windows, the proposed his w

changed. It was the munderer of his father. Richard caught him by his coat and bore him flercely to the ground.
"Don't, don't kill me," the man cried, unable to make any resistance.
"Don't kill you?" Richard said almost brutally.
"Why not? Did you have any mercy on that old man that night?"
"Don't, don't," was all the man could say for then he broke into a violent fit of coughing, and he was so weak and so helpless that Richard pitted him and helped him to his feet.
"They robbed me, robbed me," Bakeman went on in broken sentences. "They robbed me and sent me out to freeze and starve. Look at me. See what I am. Have they robbed you, too?"
"Come with me," Richard said sharply and without more ado he took Bakeman's arm and led him unresistingly along until they met a cab. Into this he hurried him and they were driven to Mr. Pearlock's house. There, although it was very late. Richard rang until the door was opened by Mr. Pearlock himself who had apparently been roused from his first sleep by Richard's ring.
"Bless my soul!" he said. "What have you got here?"
"I have got him," Richard answered grimly, "the

works the "A very interesting case we had. Irvine versus Bering. A pretty client and a skillful about the versus Bering. A pretty client and a skillful about the versus Bering. A pretty client and a skillful about the versus Bering. Who they not all areasy arise to what the versus as a control of your father's well." "Oh." Many aid. "What have you got here" "Who have a well and the versus as a control of your father well." "Oh." Sany aid. "What have you got here" "Why, abe had to leave her home and come here. But it was not a bad exchange, and very "You have some tens who are a bed exchange, and very "You have some tens who are a second come here. But it was not a bad exchange, and very "You have some of the native and the feel, as a value of the well and the second come here. But it was not a bad exchange, and very "You have she do to you say to that?" "I am norty in have spoiled one of the "I' am norty in have spoiled one of the "I' am norty in have spoiled one of the "I' am norty in have spoiled one of the "I' am norty in have spoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and pild doo; but you have epoiled one of the "I' and the "I' and "I' a

too plainly how strong Richard had grown and he knew that physically he was no match for him.

"Go," said Richard fiercely. "Go, before I strangle you."

"Stop, Richard," Mr. Pearlock said as he stepped forward. "Stop, I tell you."

Michael was plainly glad of the interference; but even now he seemed to fear some injury; but with a great effort he gained control of himself and turning to Mr. Pearlock he said:

"Mr. Pearlock he said:
"I thought we might need you," Mr. Pearlock answered, "but if you don't mind I will ask you to let me postpone my talk with you a few minutes."

"Certainly," said Michael his hand upon the door,
"Plainly, gentleman," Mr. Blooker said as he buttoned his overcoat, "you are not very fond of Mr. Michael Bering. Well, these family differences are not often any affair of mine. Sometimes, however, they do become so. I will give the necessary orders. You will not have much trouble."

As Mr. Pearlock, for the removal of our friend here. You will not have much trouble."

As Mr. Blooker left the room Michael Bering whose composure had never been known to desert him before and who had regained it as soon as it was plain that he was not in bodily danger, said coolly to Mr. Pearlock:

"Your message led me to expect that you might have something at last to tell me of that wayward girl. Mary has disappeared you know, Richard."
"Any inquiries you choose to make concerning Mary you will please address to me." Richard replied.
"Out of the plain of the plain of the farther you keep from justice the better for you, Mr. Michael Bering."

"Indeed?" Michael said.
"Justice!" repeated Mr. Pearlock angrily, "the farther you keep from justice the better for you, Mr. Michael Bering."

"Indeed?" Michael said.
"Justice will bring you to the scaffold." Mr. Pearlock went on: "mercy may save you, if you ask it. We know, Richard and I, who sent Bakeman to your older brother's house. Here is his deposition," and Mr. Pearlock showed him the paper signed by Bakeman.

"Does he say there that I sent him?" Michael asked, a

man.
"Does he say there that I sent him?" Michael asked,
a little frightened.
"No," Richard answered impulsively, "but he told
"""."

a little frightened.

"No," Richard answered impulsively, "but he told us."

"Pshaw!" sneered Michael. "Perhaps you can cover your own tracks but I will leave you to complete your scheme."

"Go!" said Richard imperatively.

It was not difficult for Mr. Pearlock, with the evidence now in his possession, to so arrange with the proper authorities for the prompt settlement of the charge against Richard and within a few days he was formally discharged in court with the consent of the prosecuting officer who confessed that he had not any case with which to go to trial. When this was arranged they had leisure to think of other matters and once when they were alone Mary said suddenly:

"Dick, you suspect Uncle Michael, do you not? You think that he had something to do with your dear father's death?"

"I know that he had, Mary. This man, Bakeman, was sent to our house by him for some reason genected with father's will."

"Does anyone else know of the evidence noise him?"

"Mr. Pearlock and I alone."

"Does anyone else him?"

"Mr. Pearlock and I alone."

"I am so glad, and you will not do anything. We can be generous now can we not?"

"Generous?"

"Let him punish himself then; and I do not believe his punishment will be light," she repiled considently.



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THE NOBLE ST. BERNARD.



E FORE the famous St. Gothard tunnel, which is nine miles long and connects Switzerland with Italy, was built, or even thought of, the noble monk, St. Bern

or even the output of, the no ole monk, st. Bernard of Menthon built a hospice or refuge with the famous breed of dogs which bear his name, he and his associates devoted their lives to the rescue of travelers and tourists lost in the bewildering snow-storms. This hospital, which as near as can be learned was founded about the year A.D. 962, is said to have been built upon the foundation of an old monastery, and has since given way to more pretentious buildings, which are not only the highest dwellings in Europe, but capable of sheltering hundreds of travelers. Every morning these dogs were sent out in pairs—one old and one young—to roam over the mountains in search of perishing travelers. Their enormous size and strong constitutions, coupled with the fact that they were bred in this region of perpetual snow enabled them to brave the furious storms, snow-siles and avalanches. With small casks of stimulating liquors swinging from their collars and warm blankets strapped upon their shoulders, they would scout the passes in every direction, for the relief of persons whom they might find. With almost human instinct and sagacity these dogs rarely failed to discover lost tourists, and have been frequently known to dig deep into snow-drifts and rouse from stupor the exhausted and halfrozen travelers, announcing their discovery by powerful baying to the listening monks. One dog is credited with saving over seventy lives.

With the advance of civilization the monk and his dog have passed from the scene of their

by powerful baying to the individual by power seventy lives.

With the advance of civilization the monk and his dog have passed from the scene of their triumphs in Switzerland—railroads affording safe transportation for travelers—but as a custodian of our homes and guardian of our children the St. Bernard will always be a valued servant and friend; for of late years in America as in Europe the breeding of these magnificent dogs has not only become a fancy, but a substantial industry. Their pedigrees are registered and preserved with the utmost care, and enormous sums are paid for pure-blooded specimens. The patience, mildness and sagacity of the St. Bernard is well illustrated by the beautiful head of Madam Bedever which is here given. She is owned by the Menthon



Keunels, Phænixville, Pa., and is the sister of Sir Bedevere of the Wyoming Kennels, near Boston, the most famous prize-winner of the present day and valued at over ten thousand dollars. He has never been defeated at a dogshow. The illustration which heads this article is of Rex Withington, a near relative of this dog, and owned by Ed. W. Robinson, the artist of the Lakeside Press, Portland, Maine.

The largest St. Bernard in America, and perhaps in the world, Lord Bute, who stood nearly four feet in height, died last month at the Menthon Kennels. In addition to his huge size, he was well-nigh perfect in markings and color, and might often be seen passing about Phænixville, entirely unattended, carrying about his neck a small cask in which he colected subscriptions for charitable objects. He weighed over two hundred and fifty pounds and his original cost was four thousand dollars.

The chief characteristics of the thoroughbred St. Bernard are orange or orange-tawny color, white blaze or nose-band and with chest, legs and tip of tail white with black shadings. Their coat is glossy but not curly; tail straight with slight upward curl at tip. Massive forelegs, great bone and girth. Eyes deep brown, gentle expression, and remarkably good disposition.

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Madame Rowley's Toilet Mask

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE CLAIMS MADE FOR MADAME ROWLEY'S TOILET MASK, AND THE GROUNDS ON WHICH IT IS RECOMMENDED TO LADIES FOR BEAUTIFYING, BLEACHING, AND PRESERVING THE COMPLEXION:

- Ist. The Mask is Soft and Pliable and can be Easily Applied and Worn without Discomfort or Inconvenience. 9th. It is a Natural Beautifier for Bleaching and Preserving the Skin and Removing Complexional Imperfections.
- It is durable, and does not dissolve or come asunder, but holds its original shape.
- It has been Analyzed by Eminent Scientists and Chemical Experts, and pronounced Perfectly Pure and Harmless.
- With ordinary care the Mask will Last for Years, and its valuable properties Never-Become Impaired.
- 5th. The Mask is protected by letters patent, has been introduced ten years, and is the only Genuine article of the kind.
- 6th. It is Recommended by Eminent Physicians and Scientific Men, as a substitute for injurious cosmetics.
- The Mask is as Unlike the fraudulent appliances used for conveying cosmetics, etc., to the face as day is to night, and it bears no analogy to them.
- 8th. The Mask may be worn with Perfect Privacy if desired. The Closest Scrutiny cannot detect that it has been used.

" My face is as soft and smooth as an infant's."

" I am perfectly delighted with it."
" As a medium for removing discolorations, softening and beautifying the skin, I consider it unequalled."

"It is indeed a perfect success - an inestimable treasure." "I find that it fremoves freckles, tan, sumburn, and gives the complexion a soft, smooth surface."

"I have worn the Mask but two weeks, and am amazed at the change it has made in my appearance."

The Toilet Mask (or Face Glove) in position to the face.
TO BE WORN THREE TIMES IN THE WEEK.

A FEW SPECIMEN EXTRACTS FROM TESTIMONIAL LETTERS: "The Mask certainly acts upon the skin with a mild and beneficial result, making it smoother and clearer, and seeming to remove pimples, irritations, etc., with each application." "I am so rejoiced at having found at last an article that will indeed improve the complexion."

"Every lady who desires a faultless complexion should be provided with the Mask." "For softening and beautifying the skin, there is nothing to compare with it."

"Your invention cannot fail to supersede everything that is used for beautifying purposes."

"Those of my sex who desire to secure a pure com-plexion should have one."

"For bleaching the skin and removing imperfections, I know of nothing so good."

"I have worn the Mask but three nights, and the blackheads have all disappeared."

"The Mask should be kept in every lady's tollet case."

10th. The Mask is sold at a moderate price, and one purchase ends the expense.

11th. Hundreds of dollars uselessly expended for cosmetics, lotions, and like preparations may be saved by those who possess it.

12th. Ladies in every section of the country are using the Mask with gratifying results.

13th. It is safe, simple, cleanly, and effective for beautifying purposes, and never injures the most delicate skin.

14th. While it is intended that the Mask should be Worn During Sleep, it may be applied with equally good results, at Any Time, to suit the convenience of the wearer.

15th. The Mask has received the testimony of well-known society and professional ladies, who proclaim it to be the greatest discovery for beautifying purposes ever offered to womankind.

"I must tell you how delighted I am with your Toilet Mask; it gives unbounded satisfaction."

"A lady was cured of freckles by eight nights' use of the Mask."

"The improvement in my complexion is truly mar-

"After three weeks' use of the Mask the wrinkles have almost disappeared."

"My sister used one for a spotted skin, and her com-plexion is all that can be desired."

"It does even more than is claimed for it."

"I have been relieved of a muddy, greasy complexion, after trying all kinds of cosmetics without success."

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EAR COUSINS:

It is hot work putting up fruit these sultry days, but next winter we shall be so glad to see it on the shelves when company comes in "unexpected." One of the most tempting sights I ever beheld, was the "fruit-room" of one of my neighbors, a model housekeeper, with its rows on rows of jars filled with berries of all kinds, crab-apples, pine-apples, peaches, pears, glasses of translucent jelly, jars of apple butter and similar concoctions. And when, during an attack of "la grippe," some of these delicious fruits found their way to my room, I was able to testify that their appearance was not deceitful.

Last time I gave some recipes for canning and pickling, and this month will have a few more. If they come too early, put them in your scrap-book for future use. I know that truits come at different seasons in the various parts of the country, and it is better to be too early than too late. Some requests have lately come in for such recipes, and if I can answer them myself, I will do so; but by the time the request would appear in the paper, and the cousins have opportunity to send answers, it would be long past the season for using the recipes. Those who wish any particular recipe must send in their requests several months in advance, making allowance for the fact that this column is made up about two months before publication.

SWEET CARROT PICKLES.

Cook the carrots till done in water; take

SWEET CARROT PICKLES.

Cook the carrots till done in water; take them out, slice them, and put in a crock. Take sufficient strong vinegar to cover, 1 cup sugar, 1 teaspoon ground clamamon, heat, and pour over the carrots.

Frank.

Pare and slice 5 or 6 green tomato PIE.

Pare and slice 5 or 6 green tomatoes; have the under crust ready, and put them into it. Add the following: 1-2 teacup vinegar, I cup sugar, small piece butter. Sprinkle over it a little allspice and flour, put on the top crust and bake in a moderate oven.

MINNIE BECK, North Platte, Nebr.

MINNIE BECK, North Platte, Nebr.

TOMATO CATSUP.

Cut 1 peck ripe tomatoes in halves, boil them in a lined saucepan until the pulp is dissolved; strain through a hair sieve and set the liquor on to boil, adding 1 oz. sait, 1 oz. mace, 1 tablespoon black pepper, 1 teaspoon red pepper, 1 tablespoon ground cloves, 5 tablespoons ground mustard. Let all boil together for 5 or 6 hours, stirring most of the time. Let the mixture stand 10 hours in a cool place, then add a pint of cold vinegar, bottle and cork. Keep in a cool, dark place.

TOMATO CATSUP.

of cold vinegar, bottle and cork. Keep in a cool, dark place.

TOMATO CATSUP.

1-2 bushel tomatoes, 1 qt. good vinegar, 1 lb. black pepper, 1 oz. cayenne pepper, 1-4 oz. all-spice, 1 oz. cloves, 3 oz. mustard, 2 lbs. brown sugar, 1 handful peach leaves. Boil 3 hours. Strain through a fine sieve. Bottle when cold.

ONIE MORRIS, Utica, Kans.

CANNED CHOWCHOW.

1 qt. peas, 1 qt. shell beans, 1 qt. green corn cut from the cob. Boil each vegetable separately until tender, drain and mix, add vinegar to saturate, 1 teaspoon each of salt, pepper, cinnamon, mustard, 1 qt. young onions cut small, 1 qt. finely cut cucumbers, Boil 1 hour, then can boiling hot. Be sure cans and rings are perfect. The slightest crack or imperfection will cause the contents to spoil. Purchase and use new rubbers every season. Mrs. M. B. F.

Tomato catsup.

Put on the fire and boil an hour, stirring with great care to avoid burning. Bottle and seal. If too thick when used, put in a little vinegar.

Mrs. M. H. P.

GREEN TOMATO CATSUP.

GREEN TOMATO CATSUP.

GREEN TOMATO CATSUP.

1-2 peck ripe tomatoes, 1-2 peck green tomatoes, 6 onions, 3 large heads cabbage, 1 cup grated horseradish, 3 red and 3 green peppers, 1 tablespoon ground mustard, 2 tablespoons black mustard, 2 tablespoons celety seed, 1 of tumeric, 1 of cinnamon, 1 of ground cloves, 2 pts. sugar, 1 pt. salt. Chop your tomatoes (both ripe and green), cabbage, onions and peppers the day before making, and mix with the salt. The second morning drain, add horseradish, ground and whole mustard seed, spicc, tumeric and sugar. Put over enough vinegar to cover well. Then cook till heated through. Boil about 1 hour, rather slowly.

Mrs. N. C. Hess, Pearl, Ill.

Mrs. N. C. Hess, Pearl, III.

GREEN TOMATO PICKLES.

Slice the tomatoes over night; put a layer of lomatoes and a sprinkle of salt alternately under the salt alternate of the s

CRAB APPLE PRESERVES.

Core the apples and put them in strong salt water. Soak 24 hours, put in fresh water; shange the water every 6 hours unstit the salt is all out, then soak 2 hours in alum water. Add ib. of sugar to each lb. of apples, boil to a blick mass.

FLORIDA SUBSCRIBER.

Thick mass.

FLORIDA SUBSCRIBER.

In answer to the requests I will send my tested recipes. For Florence W:

CHICKEN SALAD.

Cut the meat from 2 chickens, cut the meat into narrow shreds 2 inches long, add an equal quantity of shred lettuce, mix in a bowl, prepare a dressing this way: Beat the yolks of eggs, salt lightly and beat again, beat in a few drops at a time 4 tablespoonsful of oil; then 3 teaspoonsful of hot vinegar and 1-2 teaspoon of best celery essence; the mixture should be thick as cream, pour over the chicken, mix well and lightly, put into a salad dish and lay sections of two hard boiled eggs on top, with a chain of whites around the edge.

Here is a nice way to make a

Here is a nice way to make a

GREEN CORN PUDDING GREEN CORN PUDDING.

Take 12 ears of sweet corn, grated, 11-2 pints of milk, 4 well beaten eggs, 11-2 cups sugar, mix it and bake for 2 hours in a buttered dish.

Will send more recipes soon.

COUSIN MOLLIE.

MIXED PICKLES.
300 small cucumbers, 4 green peppers sliced

fine, 2 large or 3 small heads cauliflower, 3 heads white cabbage shaved fine, 9 large onions sliced, 1 large root horseradish, 1 qt. green beans cut 1 inch long, 1 qt. green tomatoes sliced. Put this mixture into a pretty strong brine for 24 hours; drain 3 hours, then sprinkle in 1-4 lb. black and 1-4 white mustard seed, and 1 tablespoon black ground pepper. Let it come to a good boil in just vinegar to cover it, adding a little alum. Drain again, and when cold, mix in 1-2 pint ground mustard; cover the whole with good cider vinegar; add turmeric enough to color it, if you like.

Tomato Pudding.

Grease a pudding dish, and put in it a layer of sliced tomatoes, then a layer of bread-crumbs, a little pepper and salt, and so on until the dish is full, having the bread last. Add a few bits of butter, bake in a quick oven 20 minutes.

SCALLOPED APPLES.

Butter a pudding dish, and put a layer of peeled sliced apples in the bottom. Sprinkle with sugar, a very little flour and cinnamon, and some small bits of butter. Fill the dish in this manner, and bake I hour, covering the dish to prevent burning on top. Serve cold or hot.

I will close the column now with a valuable communication from Ruth Parkton.

Look for more good things next month. Many thanks to my helpers.

Cousin Ceres, (Care of Comfort.)

Simple Dishes for Sensible People.

VERYTHING changes as the march of civilization goes on, and in nothing is the change more noticeable than in the department of housewife expected to spend the greater portion of her time, summer and winter, in the kitchen. No matter how hot the day, how weary the wife and mother, three times a day must a substantial repast be prepared and placed, steaming, upon the table. To-day, we have changed all that. The best and most famous cooks in the world have applied their knowledge and skill to the preparation of simple dishes adapted to the needs of the body in all kinds of weather. It is becoming a recognized fact that large quantities of meat are not the proper food for summer use, nor should many hot dishes be used. Fruit and vegetables are the fitting sustenance for the body in tropical countries and little else is eaten there. Is it not, then, logical that when our temperature reaches that of southern climes, we should profit by their centuries of experience and adopt the kind of food that has proved to be best suited to the season?

Mrs. Lincoln, the famous Boston teacher of cookery, said to me not long ago: "I wish that I could convince people of the superiority of simple food. Women spend so much more time than they need, over the cooking stove. If they would only let me give them a bill of fare for hot days, how much better they would feed."

"Very well!" I said, "Give it to me and in my next article on cooking I will give it to the many readers of Comport."

"Well, let us take a typical July day. Morning seems hot



have a delicidish.

Tor dinner you can use the sliced cold beef—there is nothing nicer—or heat the slices in gravy in the frying pan. Have a salad of vegetables, perhaps there were carrots or beets left the day before and there are still a few peas and beans in the refrigerator—not enough of any one article to serve, but just put them together properly and see the result. Out the carrots or beets into small pieces, put into a salad bowl with the peas and string beans which latter cut up. Now add a satispoonful of salt, a sprinkling of pepper, two tablespoonfuls of salad oil and one and a half tablespoonfuls of vinegar. Mix thoroughly, decorate with parsley, asparagus tops or mything of that nature. This is to be prepared just before dinner, as it should not stand long.

Or if you have no cold cooked vegetables, have a lettuce salad. Take two fine heads of lettuce, remove the outer leaves and stems, tear the inner leaves in several pieces, wash well in cold water, drain thoroughly and place in a salad bowl with the hearts on top. In a cup mix a saltspoonful of salt, a third of a saltspoonful of pepper, in a tablespoonfuls of vinegar. Add one and a half tablespoonfuls of sweet oil, pour it over the lettuce and it is ready to serve. It should not stand more than five minutes before serving.

serve. It should not stand more than five minutes before serving. It is always a good idea to cook more potatoes than are needed for dinner, because cold potatoes are nice for salad or can be prepared for

are needed for dinnar, because cold potatoes are nice for salad or can be prepared for breakfast in many ways."

"That reminds me," I said. "Do you know Delmonico's recipe for hashed potatoes, browned? No? Well, here it is just as I have had them served many a time at his famous restaurant. Hasheight medium sized cold potatoes, place a scant tablespoonful of good butter in the frying-pan: when it is hot add a saltspoonful each of sait and pepper and then put the potatoes in and let them become thoroughly heated. Then give them the shape of an omelet by pressing them carefully into one half the pan, let them brown for five minutes without stirring and slide them carefully on a hot dish.

Another favorite way of preparing potatoes at Delmonico's is with cream. The last time I was there, one of New York's millionaires dropped in and ordered-you would never guess what! for luncheon. Cold sliced ham and creamed hashed potatoes! To the eight cold potatoes you add a half cup of cream and two teaspoonfuls of good butter, a saltspoonful of sait and one of pepper and a half saltspoonful of sait and one of pepper and a half saltspoonful of sait and one of pepper and a half saltspoonful of sait and one of pepper and a half saltspoonful of sait and one of pepper and a half saltspoonful of sait and one of pepper and a half saltspoonful of fest seemed by preparing them in this way and then putting them in a dish and sprinkle two tablespoonfuls of graded cheese, two tablespoonfuls of fresh bread-crumbs, drop tiny piecess of butter over the top and put in the oven to brown lightly."

Mrs. Lincoln laughed and said that Delmonico must have filched that recfpe from her, as it was one of her favorite breakfast dishes.

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KENSINGTON STAMPING was neer more popular tian to-day. Many ladies making high wages working at home dod hours. Besides beautifying your own home you can make face very 5 minutes you stamp for others. If you only devote hours a day to it, the snug little sum of \$5 and over comes in, as the prices france from \$5. to \$1 for each pattern you tamp. An inventive genius has lately modernized machinary for turning out these patterns by the hundred yards as first you can reel off a ball of yarn, so their cost is barely modern you can evel off a ball of yarn, so their cost is barely modely to can reel off a ball of yarn, so the patterns on strips about two first was lastycar. We send the patterns on strips about two list was lastycar. We send the patterns on strips about two list of the strips of the strips of the largest wartest of patterns, each from about a foot long down to single alphabet letters. We cannot describe them, not having room to go into destil, but in order to the patterns, we will send the above outfit. Prespostpoid, of plantments, we will send the above outfit. Prespostpoid, of all three months' (32c.) subscribers, and also send a new bodo or Manual of Instraction in the er of stampling. Just princes I to severy manner of working the patterns. If you enclose I so, at once, we make you a present of above.

\$25.00 REWARD.

The Publishers of COMFORT, in order to stimulate competition and encourage the inventive spirit among their readers, have decided to offer the following prizes for original contributions to this col-

lowing prizes for original contributions to this column:

1st.—A prize of ten dollars to be given for the letter containing the best suggestions for original and practical fancy articles suitable for Christmas gifts. Not less than three articles nor more than six should be described by one person. If the description can be illustrated by drawings so much the better; but whether Illustrated or not, they must be plain and explicit, so as to be readily worked from. Nothing copied from books or papers will be allowed. Descriptions of very expensive articles are not desired.

2d.—A prize of five dollars for the next best letter in the same line.

3d.—A prize of five dollars for the best idea of a Christmas gift for a gentleman which can be made by the busy fingers of wife, mother, sister, or sweetheart.

4th.—A prize of five dollars for the best suggestions of homemade Christmas gifts for Grandma and Grandps.

of homemade Christmas gave
Grandpa.

Grandpa.

Letters in competition for these prizes must be
sent in before Sept. 15, in order that the result may
be announced and the letters published in the November issue. All letters must be addressed, Busy Bee
care COMFORT and marked "Christmas Designs."
No lace patterns, knitted tidies, or any of that class
of fancy work, will be admitted into the competition.

ings interesting, by schamp, something for this department.

I am glad to see Goldenrod with us again, and she shall speak first.

"Good-morning, all! I see that some of my labors were published in a late Comport, so encouraged by that, I have come again. This time I did not pause out side, but came right into the midst and took possession of the little rocker; and now that I am nicely rested, I will unfold my tale in your ear. I have come from Brooklyn, where I have been gathering honey for the month past, and here are the fruits of my labors. First

fruits of my labors. First

A PRETTY PANEL.

A piece of cardboard 10 by
20 inches, cover with cream
satin then arrange artistically a bouquet of dried roses,
violets, pinks, lillies, ferns,
etc. and tie the stems with a
bow of narrow ribbon, paste
on the satin and put golden
dots, half moons, stars, etc.,
of gilt paper around the
border. This is very pretty
for the parlor.

Next spool shelves.

Next spool shelves.

Next SPOOL SHELVES.

Take 2 or 3 very thin pine boards and boreholes at each of the four corners (the boards can be of any size desired), put a knot into one end of heavy picture cord, insert end in the hole, string on 5 or 6 spools, then through the next board, then more spools, and so on till you have enough shelves. Make the other 3 corners the same way, then paint all and decorate.

Now let me tell you about some

BROOKLYN BUTTERFLIES.

Take a common clothes pin, gild it and dot with black, then cut out of tissue paper a round, push in between the prongs of the pin, and dot the paper with the gold. This makes a butterfly.

And finally somethics.

nething which all of us must

AUNT MINERVA'S OWLS.

Take a sheet of tissue paper 7 by 5 inches, either white, brown or black, fold lengthways, fringe one end about 1 1-2 inches and gather right above it so that the paper is 2 inches wide, gather at the other end the same way, about 2 inches down, then stuff cotton in the open side and close. Sew two shoe buttons in a yellow circle of paper at the 2 inch gathers for the eyes. Make 2 scallops at the top for ears and sew a 3 cornered piece of leather for the nose, a little below the eyes. If the owls are white, make the feathers with black ink; if dark, with white paint."

Many thanks, Goldenrod! these suggestions

if dark, with white paint."

Many thanks, Goldenrod! these suggestions are just what we like best. I hope you will gather more honey before Christmas, and bring it to the Hive for our benefit. We want to begin on our presents early this year, so all who have contributions and suggestions, please send them in as soon as possible.

"There has always been such a buzzing in the Hive that I did not dare to speak," says a new Bee, coming forward, "although I have attended a good many of the meetings; but to-day the Hive seems so quiet that I will venture to speak."

That is right, only you should not have been silent so long. Let me see, your name is—

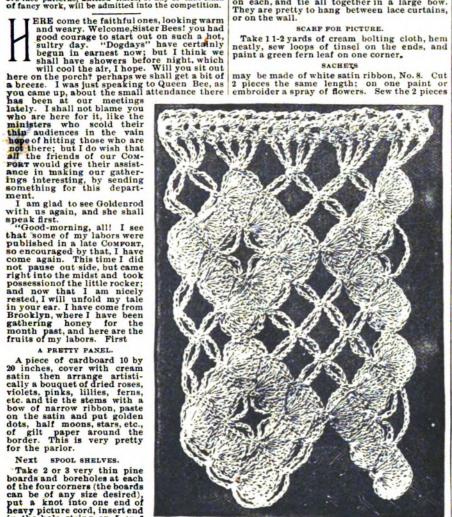
"Cora Havens, of N. Sparta, N. Y.; and I want to tell the Bees about a very pretty quiit which I have just finished. I got 3 1-2 yards of bleached cambric, and 4 yards of best Turkey red. From these I cut 32 blocks of each, 3 by 8 inches, and outlined a different design on each one. On the white blocks I used red cotton, and on the red ones, white cotton thread No. 8. I sewed the blocks together in strips, red and white alternately, and for a border, cut 2 strips of red 3 in. wide, pieced red and white blocks 3 by 3 and sewed between the red strips."

This is a pretty notion, and makes a variety from the host of patchwork quilts. What! do I see Melissa Funk here? I did not notice you before. Well, any one who has travelled all the way from Tacoma, Wash., must be tired, so it is well that I did not call on you first. But now, if you have "got your breath," we would like to hear from you.

"I just have a few suggestions to offer, and will not take up much time. To make a pretty ORNAMENT

ORNAMENT

roll a gracefully-shaped bottle in mucilage, then in rice. When the rice has dried, bronze or gild it, and tie a narrow ribbon around the neck. Another, gild some small cones, tie baby ribbon on each, and tie all together in a large bow. They are pretty to hang between lace curtains, or on the wall.



DIAMOND LACE.

together, feather-stitch the seams, fringe both ends, and tie with narrow silk ribbon."
"I almost hid my head when you spoke so severely of edging patterns," says Minnesota Bird, "for that is what I have brought. But I hope that when you see how handsome this is, you will forgive me."
That is truly a beautiful pattern. Of course I have no idea of excluding lace patterns from the Hive, because I know how many people love to do that sort of work; but we do not want to have too much of any one thing to the exclusion of others. Let me see, this is called—

DIAMOND LACE.

DIAMOND LACE.

Chain 55.

Chain 55.

1st row.—2 dc in 5th st of ch, ch 1, 2 dc in same, ch 5, sc in 5th st from sh, ch 5, sc in 10th st, reeat 8 times, fasten with sc in every 5th st.

2d row.—Ch 5, 10 tr (thread over twice) in 1st sc of preceding row, fasten with sc on sc, ch 10, skip 1 sc, sc on next sc, ch 10, skip 1, sc in next sc, 10 tr in next sc, sc on sc, ch 10, skip 1 sc, sc on next, ch 5, sh in sh, ch 3, turn.

3d row.—Sh in sh, ch 3, turn.

3d row.—Sh in sh, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc in 1st st of ch 10, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 6th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th and 5th tr, ch 5, sc on sc, ch 5, sc between 5th sc on s

4th row.—10 tr in 1st sc, sc on sc, 10 tr in next sc, sc on sc, ch 10, skip 1 sc, sc on next, 10 tr in sc, sc on sc, 10 tr in next, sc on sc, ch 10, sh in sh, ch 3, turn.

5th row.—Same as 3d, with 5 ch, 1 sc, right across, ch 5, turn.

across, ch 5, turn.

6th row.—10 tr in sc, sc on sc, ch 10, skip 1 sc,
sc in next, 10 tr in sc, sc on sc, 10 tr on sc, sc on
sc, ch 10, skip 1 sc, sc in next, 10 tr in sc, sc on
sc, ch 5, sh in sh, ch 3, turn.

7th row.—Same as 5th row as far as middle of
last shell, turn.

8th row —10 tr in 1st sc, sc on sc, 10 tr in next

sc, sc on sc, ch 10, skip 1 sc, sc in next, 10 tr in sc, sc on sc, 10 tr in next sc, sc on sc, ch, sh in sh, ch 3, turn.

9th row.—Same as 7th until middle of last sh,

sh, ch 3, turn.
9th row.—Same as 7th until middle of last sh, turn.
10th row.—10 tr in 1st sc, sc on sc, ch 10, skip 1 sc, sc in next, ch 10, skip 1 sc, sc in next, 10 tr in sc, sc on sc, ch 10, skip 1 sc, sc on next, ch 5, sh in sh, ch 3, turn.

11th row.—Same as 9th to middle of last sh, ch 6, sc between first and 2d shell, ch 6, sc between 2d and 3d sh, ch 5, sc in point of scallop, ch 5, sc between 2d and 3d sh, ch 5, sc between 2d and 1st sh, ch 5, sc in end of scallop, turn.
12th row.—Ch 6, sc on sc, repeat around scallop, to 10, skip 1 sc, sc in next, repeat 3 times, ch 10, sh in sh, ch 3, turn. Repeat from 1st row.—'It always seems to me that the knitters do not have quite a fair show in the meetings," says Mrs. Hardy of Oregen, coming forwaad with her needles; "and as some one requested directions for a collar not long ago, just let me give some while I am here; I do not often get so far away from home.

Lace Collar.

Lace Collar.

Cast on 18 stitches.

Knit 5 rows plain slipping 1st st on neck side.
6th row.—K 5, o.2, slip 2, k 1, bind the 2 slipped
sts over the k 1, o 2, slip 2, k 1, bind the 2 slipped
sts over the k 1, and so continue to end of
needle, k last st plain, will be 4 holes in 6th
row.

needle, k last st plain, will be a holes in very row.

7th row.—K 2, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 2, leaving 4 on needle unknit.

8th row.—Sl 1, k 13.

9th row.—K 12, make 2 of 13 st by knitting 1 plain and not taking st off, put thread in and purl that st with next one together, k last 4.

10th row.—Sl 1, k 4, o 2, k 1, bind over 2, so on to end, k 1. So on till collar is large enough, k 5 last rows plain.

b fast rows plain.

EDGING FOR BOTTOM, (to be herring-boned on.)
Cast on 20 sts, k across plain.
1st row.—K 5, o, k 1, o, n, k 3, n, o, k 1, o, k 6.
2d row.—K 6, o, k 3, o, n, k 1, n, o, k 3, o, n, k 3.
3d row.—K 2, n, o, k 5, o, slip 1, n, pass slipped st over, k 5, o, k 6.
4th row.—Bind off 4, k 1, o, n, k 3, n, o, k 1, o, n, k 3, n, o, n, k 1.
5th row.—K 3, o, n, k 1, n, o, k 3, o, n, k 1, n, o, k 3,

5th row.—K 3, 0, n, k 1, n, 0, k 3, 0, n, k 1, n, 0, k 3, 6th row.—K 3, 0, k 1, 0, slip 1, n, pass slipped st over, 0, k 5, a, slip 1, pass slipped st over, 0, k 4, this leaves just 20 sts to begin and repeat the pattern.

EDGING FOR THE NECK, (to be herring-boned on.)
1st row.—Throw thread around needle and
narrow, k 1, o 2, k 2.
2d row.—K 2, k 1, p 1, k 1, p 1, k 1, p 1, k 1, o, n,
there must be 6 sts in that one big loop.
3d row.—O, n, k 9.
4th row.—K 9, o, n.
5th row.—O, n, k 9.
6th row.—Bind off 6, k 4. Repeat from 1st row.

"Dear me! I wish I could find a stool to put my feet on. Haven't you any in the Hive, Busy Bee!' exclaims Jay Sea indignantly. "Do let me tell the Bees how to make a pretty one.

me tell the Bees how to make a pretty one.

CROCHET FOOTSTOOL.

Materials required:—7 doz. scarlet, 1 doz. black Berlin wool; bone crochet hook No, 0.

The top of the footstool is worked in 7 sections. Commence at the end with 32 chain, work backward and forward in double crochet, working only into the back horizontal loop of each st; work 4 rows without decrease, after which decrease one in every row by passing over the 1st st of each row, continue to decrease in this way until only 2 sts are left; work a row of double sts with black wool round each section, join all together in a round with a needle and wool; a loop of cord and tuft of loops of wool are placed in the center; the sides are finished with a short thick furniture fringe.

A HANDY BOX.

A pretty and handy little article for the worktable may be made as follows: Take a cigar box of the size desired, line the inside neatly and to hold thread, thimble, scissors, eto., and fasten leaves of flannel on the inside of the cover to hold needles. 'Cover the outside with pink cambric or any pretty material you may choose, stuffing the top to make a pincushion, and covering the sides of the box with a frill of the material edged with narrow lace.

"Cushions" that makes me think of some

material edged with narrow lace.

"Cushions? that makes me think of some cute pincushions that I saw the other day," says Mattie O'Flaherty. "For one, take 4 sticks of bamboo 9 inches long, arrange 3 of them in triangular shape, and one at the back to hold it in place. The sticks are held together by ribbon bows, and the pincushion is 3 balls of plush placed on the triangle. Another unique one is made of silk the exact size of an envelope, and having a stamp painted in one corner. Address to Mr., Miss, or Mrs. U. R. Neat. And just let me add that there is nothing so good for stuffing pincushions as human hair.

Sister Bees, I don't want to hurry you, but

for stuffing pincushions as human hair.

Sister Bees, I don't want to hurry you, but Cousin Drone says that a shower is coming up, and unless you can stay until it is over, perhaps you had better start now. I have a few umbrellas that I can lend, if anybody would like one. All brought your own? well, you certainly had a good deal of forethought. Goodbye! all try to bring a friend mext time.

Busy Bee.

H. F. Delno & Co.

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Gentlemen:—My plating machine received, everything in perfect order and works perfectly. I unpacked it and commenced at once and plated seven breast-pins and a ring in a short time. I am delighted with the work. People are bringing all the forks, spoons, watches, jewelry, etc., I can plate. Enclosed find \$5 for one plater for my cousin. More orders soon. Write above firm for circulars. Yours truly, A. KRIVER.

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into sofa-pillows, quiles, etc., and we can help you out now. We are going to dispose of this immense lot RIGHT OFF. Our packages contain from 99 to 168 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get a lot introduced into every home: then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourse! also. Remember these pieces are carefully trimmed, and especially adapted to all sorts of fancy, art, and needle work. Many ladies sell tidies, fancy pillows, etc., at a great price made from these remnants. Outer one sample lot now for only 26c. It would cost many great assorted lot at ONCE, we will give you, absolutely PRICE. This silk is worth nearly the price we ask for the remnants; but we know if you order ONE lot we will sell many in your locality, so make this liberal offer. Three lots for 6%c, five for \$1.00. BEST WAY. We send owned the above complete assorted lots PKEE to all who send 35 cents for 6 months subscription to "COMFORT." the best Home Monthly now published.

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BETTER YET. To all answering this ad. before 30 days we will also send 6 pieces of elegant PLUSH FREE. They come in Red, Blue, Green, Old Gold, etc.

Y DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:

No doubt you are greatly surprised at the changed appearance of "The Mystic Castle," and that so little space is devoted to it. The Editor of Comport Informs me that it is necessary to curtail our department on so few mysteries it is thought best to offer but one prize for solution. To the first sending complete solution will be sent a Fisherman's Outfit. Contest closes October 1, 1892. Solutions and prize-winners in November "Mystic Castle." Oldcastle hopes that the change is not permanent and that soon the customary space can be allowed us for our interesting and instructive pastime—making and solving the "Intricate Knots from Puzzledom."

A hearty greeting is extedned to all, especially those who have lately joined our ranks. Oldcastle would like to chat with each separately, but it would require too much space; so, let each one take this greeting to himself or herself, as a special welcome from their dear old mystic friend.

Solvers will kindly date their lists of solutions, also sign their right name and address every time they write; insending puzzles for publication, be sure to affit the same to each contribution. Address all communications concerning "The Mystic Castle" to Oldcastle, Comfort, Uutica, N. Y.

ACCEPTED CONTRIBUTIONS: Sol Ver. 8. Bill Queer 6. Ajax 6. Cowboy 3. Calo 3. So 80 2. Rokeby 2. Aspiro, Nosneb Benson, Ypsie, one each.

SOLVERS TO MAY'S MYSTERIES: Completes.—N. I gma, Eglantine, W. E. Wiatt, Sphinx and Hercules.

Incomplete: Doc 13, Waldemar 12, Harold 12, Thinker P. A. Stime, Ypsie and Frank, 11. Ed Ward 10. Arty Fishel, Phil and F. I. Dont, 9. Blanc, So So and Aspiro, 8. Remardo, Beb, Reb, C. E. Bechtel and Ray, 7. Calo 6. Frank Pratt 6. Ajax 4. Agricola, Nosneb Benson and Tyro, S. R. O. Chester & Lucile, 8. Payne, R. Ebus and Eagene, 2. Frank, K. Sebring and Fancy, one each.

Prize-Winners: 1. N. Igma. 2. Eglantine. 3. W. E. Wiatt.

Specials: 1. Harold. 2. S. Payne. No. 305 Fancy. Hoping to receive many lists of solutions to the small batch of "Mysteries" below, and to hear often from all of the mystic friends, I remain as ever,

Your dear old mystic friend, OLDCASTLE.

SOLUTIONS TO MAY'S MYSTERIES.

SOLUTIONS TO MAY'S MYSTERIES.

No. 303. 1. A. 2. HEN. 3. SORES. 4. SIROCCO. 5. HOEN-STOME. 6. AEROSTATION. 7. NECTAREAN. 8. SCOTERS. 9. ONIAS. 10. EON. 11. N.

NO. 304. 1. APARAS. 2. MODALE. 3. ILAVLA. 4. NIGEOT. 5. ETERNE. 6. SESSED.

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Don't send answers without subscriptions—they will receive no attention and cannot possibly wit a reward even if correct.

Protection. As a means to guard ance of irregularity or collusion, a copy of the original ten words selected to make up the above Word-Riddles is deposited with Mr. C. P. SMITH, Superintendent of the Jersey City Police Department, under seal, to be opened December 31. ISSQ, in the presence of witnesse, after this contest closes. The complete list will be printed in tall in the January Issues of our four papers, so that all who have not received rewards for correct answers will know wherein they failed. This method of protection is due to all concerned, and absolutely prevents everything that is not who lily honest and fair to every subscriber.

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Y DEAR YOUNG FOLKS:

Don't you think the weather is almost too het to taik much? I think of you all enjoying yourselves at the sea shore, in the mountains, or at some pleasant country home, and I have no desire to disturb your peace of mind by lecturing you on any subject whatever. You all remember the little talk I gave you early in the summer about keeping your eyes open through your vacation, and bye and bye, when Jack Frost has covered all the trees and flowers with a white blanket, and all the birds and bugs have moved away or gone South to spend the winter, I shall hope to have some reports of what you have seen. If any of you have discovered a way to keep the ants out of the flower-beds, I wish you would make it known; they are eating my flowers all up. And by the way, ants are curious little creatures; it will pay you to study them a little.

Who can tell me why toads come out when it rains? A toad is a great institution in a garden, did you know that? The French gardeners, buy them by the dozen for that purpose. Perhaps they would eat my ants, I did not think of that! I will catch the next fine fat one that I see sunning himself on my gravel walk, and introduce him to the ants' nests.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I guess you are tired of me writing to Comporr. But Auntle I come for some useful purpose now—that is, to tell the cousins not to think hard of me for not answering all of their letters, for you know I asked for a correspondent from every State; when I asked it I didn't know how much was implied in those few words, but I certainly know now. I beg the pardon of every one who feels the least hurt with me for not answering their letters. And will say to the other cousins to "think three times" before they ever ask such a thing. We my two chums and myself went to the spring at the school-house to gather wild flowers; we found blue and white violets, honeysuckles, daises, forget-menots, etc. Which combined made a very pretty bouquet. I wish I could send some of them to Auntle, for I don't suppose you all ha



HANDLED WITH CARE.

Professor Huxley Darwin Jones
A learned man was he,
He studied bugs and birds and bones
Until he scarce could see.
And many mighty books he wrote
Which no one ever read,
Though he himself could glibly quote
Whole pages it is said.
Quoth he, "The smallest subject, sir,
If but a common bee,
When taken up for study, sir,
I handle carefully."

you? Oh, cousins! I have such a sad story to tell you, my poor little dog Trot died last June and I am so lonesome without him; when I come home from school there is no little dog to meet me at the gate and Saturday there is no Trot to beg me to go rabbit hunting with him; and I have to sit in the house all day long, which doesn't suit my nature at all, for I guess you all know by my other letter that I am called a "tom-boy." I don't object to the name for I know I am not a "prim sit still" person but just the opposite. Manna tells me I am too large to be chasing rabbits over the fleds but I cannot help it when one jumps up before. Trot and I used to have folly times after them for he did the barking and I the running. I enjoy hunting rabbits but do not want to catch them, that is the reason I trained my dog to do the barking while I did the running, for I knew I couldn't catch one if I tried ever so hard. Aunte, do you approve of "tom-boys"? And don't you think you would like to go to one of my kind of hunte? Now I want some more of the "tom-boy" cousins to come and help me out for I don't want to be the only one on the list because I feel embarrassed to be all alone.

Your loving niece. IRA STOKES, Strouds, Ga.

DO I like "tom-boys"? Well, that depends on what you mean by that term. I do not like to see a girl interested in out-of-door sports, bright and foll of life, ready to run a race with her dog, play a game of tennis, or even climb a tree if there is anything at the top to reward her efforts! Does that answer your question, my dear?

"I live 1 3-4 miles from a small village named North Creek on a nice farm of 80 acres. The countered in the started of the form of 80 acres. The countered in out-of-door sports, Dright and fall of life, ready to run a race with her dog, play a game of tennis, or even climb a tree if there is anything at the top to reward her efforts! Does that answer your question, my dear?

"I live 1 3-4 miles from a small village named

top to reward her efforts! Does that answer your question, my dear?

"I live 1 3-4 miles from a small village named North Creek on a nice farm of 80 acres. The country is quite new, and was once the camping-ground of the Indians, as we often find their relics. Not many miles from here is Fort Defiance, where mad Anthony Wayne fought the red men. I am 14 years old, and world like some of the cousins of my age to write to me.

North Creek, Putnam Co., Ohio."

"I live in the northeastern part of Colorado, 50 miles from the Rocky Mts., and about the same distance from Denver. The principal products are wheat, oats, rye, barley, corn and potatoes. Alfalfa is also extensively raised here. The crops are raised by irrigation, for there is seldom any rain here; we get our water from the South Platte river, 11-2 miles away. Here the sun shines nearly the year around. There are a great many cattle out on the range. The range cattle live out on the prairie all winter. I am a farmer's daughter 11 years old. I ride after our cows every night, so that makes me among the cattle

a good deal. Would like to correspond with some one of my age. NINA C. SEARLES, Greeley, Colo."

a good deal. Would like to correspond with some one of my age. Nina C. Searles, Greeley, Colo."

What a beautiful place to live, where the sun always shines! Yet I should not like to go so far for water on a hot day, nor in the cold storms of winter. Some clouds and rain are best, after all, in the sky as well as in our lives.

"I am a boy 14 years old. I go to school in the fall and winter, and in spring and summer I help raise corn, pumpkins, and garden truck. I live near the great Natural Tunnel over Stock Creek; this bridge was made when the world was made. It is 480 feet high, and 500 yards through. The people have built a railroad through this tunnel, and a few days ago a rock as large as a house fell from the roof and mashed up a car and hurt a great many men. I wish the cousins could see this place; there is most everything here that you can think of, strange wild flowers, and in the tunnel are salts, and nitre, and fossil fish, and many other curious things. We children make collections of these things. Would like to hear from the other cousins about their collections.

EMERY NOELL, Pattonsville, Va."

Was the bridge "made when the world was made," Emery? Some day when you study geology, perhaps you will not think so. At least, you will think it nearer the truth to say "when the world was being made."

"I am 12 years old. My peta are numerous. I have the sure was the court of the county of the coun

nearer the truth to say "when the world was being made."

"I am 12 years old. My pets are numerous. I have 4 cats; 2 are red, and the others are three-colored. I have a nice little dog who is so fat he can hardly run, a gray rabbit, 2 pet sheep, a white chicken with a top-knot so big she can scarcely see, and 2 birds. When I have nothing else to do, I go out in the orchard, sit in my hammock, and do some fancy-work which I learn from Busy Bee's department; I think that department is very nice. Now a word about our city. It is beautifully situated on the shore of Lake Michigan; it has 20,000 inhabitants, and is growing faster than any city in the State. The principal occupation is manufacturing. One of our furniture factories, known as Mattoon's, is the largest of the kind in the world. They sent a special train of 40 cars to St. Louis, all laden with furniture. The train was gaily decorated with flags and banners, and only moved in the daytime, so that people along the line might see it. MOLLY KAUSTER, Sheboygan, Wisc."

How do those 4 cats, 2 birds, rabbit, and chicken, get along together without a tragedy? I should think they would be liable to be like the lion and the lamb—you know they lay down together, but the lamb—you know they lay down together, but the lamb—you know they lay down together, but the lamb was inside the lion!

lamb was inside the lion!

"I live in Penn., and think it is the 'dearest spot on earth.' We are 2 1-2 miles from Mammoth, where 168 men were killed in the great explosion, Jan. 26, 1891. I never want to experience such a time again. There were dead lying all around. There had to be guards around the pit to keep the women from running down in the shaft. I am not ashamed to sign my real name; wish some of the cousins would write to me.

ALICE G. JOHNSON, BOX 2, Kecksburg, Penn."

ALICE G. JOHNSON, Box 2, Kecksburg, Penn."
"I am 12 years old, and live in Wyoming, near the
Big Horn Mts., the peaks of which are covered with
snow the year around. I have one pet, a little Indian
pony; his name is Ingen. It is 3 miles to the nearest
school-house, but everybody goes on horseback out
here, and my sister and I ride too in the summer; but
there is no school in the wanter, as it is too cold
weather. ALICE E. HARINNOTON, Kearney, Wyo."

Here is a vestly ryinted letter from one of my serve

Here is a neatly printed letter from one of my very little folks.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am going to write you a let-ter. I am 5 years old. I wash the dishes, help cook, take care of sister, and wait on mama when she is sick. I can read in the Third Reader. I have no books; won't some of the cousins send me some ol-ones? I never had a spelling book. LOUIE E. JONES, Sarepta, Miss.

You are a real little "house-mother," taking care of sister, and helping mama. How did you ever learn to write and spell so well, with no books? I hope the cousins will send you some.

cousins will send you some.

"You asked us to send you our ideas in regard to forming a club of our own. I think it would be an excellent idea. Now, boys and girls, get a move on your selves, and let Auntie have some suggestions on the subject, and probably we can organize one. I am a boy 16 years old, and my home is in Pittsburg, Penn., the great coal, iron and steel centre. Like most boys, I have a hobby, and it is the growing of cact. I would like to correspond with anyone interested in this subject, also with boys in Colo, Ariz. or New Mex.

160 Industry St., Pittsburg, Penn."

"I am a school boy 12 years old. I think very much

"I am a school boy 12 years old. I think very much of Comfort; my mother thinks that Cousin Ceres' receipts are worth the price of the paper. I like the Busy Bee corner, although I am a boy. Some boys at school say I am part girl, as I daub paint a little, and make dolls' dresses, etc. Good-bye, and success to Comfort.

West Township, N. Y."

Don't be a "girl boy" Or "Or "I be a "girl boy". Or "I be a "girl boy".

West Township, N. Y."

Don't be a "girl-boy," Orville, whatever you do! I like to see boys quiet and well behaved in the house, and don't mind their being interested in fancy-work; but at your age I think you would be better off out-of-door playing ball, than in the house making dolls' dresses.

dresses.

Dear Aunt and Cousins:—I have such good news that I cannot keep from writing. It has been some time since I wrote last, and I want to tell you about mother. She has been sick and afflicted for 13 years, and had almost lost her trust in God. But I got so and had almost lost her trust in God. But I got so many good letters from the cousins that she began to think; she read COMFORT, and now she is happy. That is a big word, Auntie, it means a good deal, Then she has been taking Oxien which she saw advertised in COMFORT, and it has almost entirely cured her of the bad nervous spells she used to have. She only had a little, about 30c, worth. So we are all happy now over the good COMFORT has done us. I want to thank the cousins for the nice flower seeds sent me, and I got some pretty books too.

JAMES M. LOVELESS, Claremore, Ind Ter.

"I am very fond of reading, and would like to find

out where 'The Life of the James Boys' or 'The Boy Trappers' are published, so if any of the cousins can tell me, I would be very glad. Hubbard is a growing little city of about 3,000 inhabitants. Our schools are excellent; there are 7 churches and 2 public achools. The high school course is one of 4 years, and I am in my second year, taking up algebra, natural philosophy, chemistry, Latin and physical geography; so you see there is no time for me to throw away, which is better I think than more time and fewer studies. The Hubbard Base Ball Club's grounds are on the school grounds, and as there are about 20 of us in school we have great games there. I, like every American boy, am very fond of the national game, and think nothing is so invigorating as to toss the ball on the diamond. Wishing Comport success I will close, and if any of the cousins would like to correspond with a chap like me write to FRED A. CRAMER, Hubbard, Ohio."

"I am only a poor little sick girl, a great sufferer from heart and lung disease. I cannot run around and play like other little folks; have a very sad life, full of pain day and night, without any hope of recovery. Although my health is so poor, I have a yery pleasant home in a beautiful city, and I have a very pleasant home in a beautiful city, and I have a very pleasant home in a beautiful city, and I have a very pleasant home in a beautiful city, and I have a very pleasant home in a beautiful city, and I have a dear good mama and papa and grown up brother and sister. I have read a great many books. I wish some of the dear grown up cousins, uncless and aunties, as well as the little ones, would write to me; by doing this you can make a poor little sufferer very happy. I feel so lonesome sometimes. If you could send me children's magazines or old papers to read, I shall be so glad. Your loving little niece and cousin, Floxence N. Glass, III E. Thorhton St., Akron, O."

Now Auntie must say good-bye, although we would like to talk longer.

Now Auntie must say good-bye, although we woullike to talk longer.

AUNT MINERVA, (Care of COMFORT.)

Men Will Smoke

good cigars and some like a good pipe. Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine, have a "Cigar Pipe" which they will give away to anyone sending 6c. for the next two months' of Compour. This pipe being lined with asbestos cannot burn out and you can get two dozen smokes for the price of one cigar. It looks just like a löc. cigar and comfort is combined with cheapness; they are summer joys for the men and are sent free.

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Afternoon, is to repose in the lap of lixury.

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If speech is silver and silence gold, the coming campaign ought to furnish enough "free silver" to satisfy every one.

These are the hot but happy days when girls can get a Comfort Hammock and boys a Champion Fishing Outfit without investing a penny Get your friends to take Comfort-Morse & Co. will do the rest.

While Comport does not, in any sense, deal with politics, it was the first publication to see in the Honorable Whitelaw Reid a presidential possibility, and before the Minneapolis convention met, we laid before our readers the autograph of this distinguished farmer, scholar, journalist and statesman, together with his patriotic appeal that "Americans should dignify, not degrade, politics." And in our May issue we published under the head of "Successful Bread Winners" a portrait and biographical sketch of Chauncy M. Depew, who has since been named by the President for the high office of Secretary of State.

Our September issue will be a thing of beauty and a joy forever. The title-page, which will be a picnic in pictures, will point out the road to Comfort as seen through country spectacles. In originality of design and artistic excellence this number will rival the very best productions. Among other interesting features the Ghost of Wun Lung will make its appearance in this issue. All those who subscribe now or get up clubs secure a whole year's Comfort for only twenty-five cents. Be sure to begin with the September number or you will miss some of the bright new short stories which will be published exclusively in our columns.

We frequently receive letters from subscribers requesting us to devote more space to this. that or the other department of Comfort, and are occasionally asked to give less space to some particular feature. In answer to these communications we would say that Comfort goes into over a million homes every month, and is read by people of all ages, tastes, dispositions and occupations; and that while it is our constant aim to furnish such a variety of interesting matter as will bring the greatest comfort to the greatest number, all must appreciate the fact that among so vast a range of readers it is impossible to have every article of equal interest to all. We ask everyone, when reading someting particularly pleasing, to consider that such article was specially written for him or her, and to remember in case another does not interest them fully as much, that such item in all probability prove highly entertaining to others. Were all our readers to sit down to a grand feast composed of the most delicate morsels, it is quite natural that, though all would be made happy, differences in tastes would manifest themselves. And so it must prove with reference to the contents of Com-FORT. But we shall constantly furnish such quantity, quality and variety as will amply satisfy every reasonable desire.

We are, of course, always glad to receive the ws of our readers, in ord our columns with tidings of comfort and joy for all.

POMPANOOT'S GUN.

POMPANOOT'S GUN,

The friendly relations in which the early settlers of Massachusetts lived with the Indians in the short intervals between massacres have always been the source of amusing and wondering interest to students of colonial history. The Indians often remained on their old camping grounds and sometimes employed white men to till their farms, while the squaws peddled baskets and trinkets among the settlers. Like the story of the man who recognized an old acquaintance in the Indian that scalped him, there is much that is suggestive in the diary of Ebenezer Field of Northfield, Mass.:

March, 1722.

To mending Pompanoot's gun

Zachariah's account

After four shillings' worth of mending, Pompanoot's gun undoubtedly did good service, but it is to be poped that Ebenezer Field never had an opportunity of recognizing in the weapon "an old acquaintance" and that its deadly work was performed out of range of Pompanoot's benefacters.

BATHING.

AT THE SEASIDE AND IN THE CITIES.

At the Seaside and in the Cities.

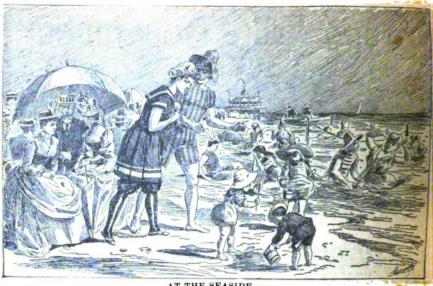
This season of the year the funny papers are filled with amusing paragraphs concerning the scanty raiment worn by the modern fashionable at the seaside. "Popper dear," says the young girl anxiously, "you have forgotten my bathing suit!" "No, my dear," replies papa, as he pulls out a small package from his vest pocket. "Here it is," and with a cry of delight the young belle reaches for the precious garment, and a few minutes later is sporting on the sand.

While of course this is overdrawn, yet there has been a great change in costumes from the early days when bathing suits were not considered proper unless they covered both wrists and ankles, and were so clumsily made that they only needed a little inflation to make the wearer resemble a balloon. Since then the tendency has been towards the other extreme. There is no question but that science and common sense can construct a garment which will be comely, convenient and comfortable, without being consplicuous. It should protect and properly clothe, without dragging down by its weight, or fatiguing the wearer by wrapping around and binding the muscles, and should be what it purports to be—a garment to swim in. So long as the present low-necked costume is worn by ladies in crowded parlors, it seems that their appearance when in water up to their chins need not cause much concern or comment. The real beauty of all attire ists appropriateness. Bright colors and strong contrasts sometimes render suits too conspicuous that would be perfectly proper in sober hue, but as long as some foolish people crave a doubtful kind of admiration there will be objectionable costumes not only at the beach but everywhere else.

But the poor of a great city haven't much time to solit hairs on the question of bathing

costumes not only at the beach but everywhere else.

But the poor of a great city haven't much time to split hairs on the question of bathing suits. A place to bathe must first be found. In all the large cities the authorities now furnish bath-houses, which are square house-rafts, or floats, with a well-hole in the middle; the bottom of which is floored and the sides made of strong slats which allow the surrounding water to freely enter. The water is about six feet deep, and our illustration gives an exact representation of the interior of one of these bath houses. As soon as the water is warm enough, in the spring, these public baths, to which no admission is charged, are towed from their winter quarters, and distributed along the waterfront, fastened to convenient piers, and connected with the shore by a narrow gangway. All around the tank in the center of the float,



AT THE SEASIDE.

Yachts and Yachting.

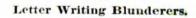
HOUGH old as the hills, yachting was never more fascinating than to-day. In earlier times sailing was for barter, discovery and warfare; to-day it is for pleasure, sport and recreation. But its admirers cannot be lukewarm. To the lover of salt water this sport is his supreme delight, but in the landsman it inspires only horror, fear and aversion. Like the turtle the yachtsman has his house always with him, and sometimes he is glad indeed to withdraw into it. The amount of necessities and comforts the practiced yachtsman can stow away in a room the size of a dry goods box is marvellous. Life aboard a sailing yacht is by fits and starts the idlest and most busy and exciting. One day the crew lazily lounge upon the decks, and the vessel quietly skims along under favoring breezes, requiring but a tonch at the helm now and then—the next, the wind shrieks in the rigging, the white-topped waves race madly along the vessel's

very often taken advantage of, although there is a class of hardy sailors who are never really enjoying themselves unless it's 'blowing great guns' and the deck is at an angle of something like forty-five degrees.

The tall and gracefully sparred sailing yacht and the sharp swift steamer has each its host of admirers, but there is no gainsaying an element of romance and fascination which hangs about the genuine sailing craft, which the steam-yacht, with all its modern conveniences, does not supply. Aside from this, there is the matter of expense. Upon asteame, there is the matter of expense. Upon asteamed, repairs, etc., eats up a fortune every year compared to which the original cost of the vesselsometimes half a million—soon becomes trifling. But with steam one is never becalmed, can go from point to point in spite of unfavorable winds, and is sure of returning at any given time.

To all yachtsmen, however, comes sound sleep and hearty appetite, and he laughs at inconveniences which would be unbearable had he not voluntarily subjected himself to them.

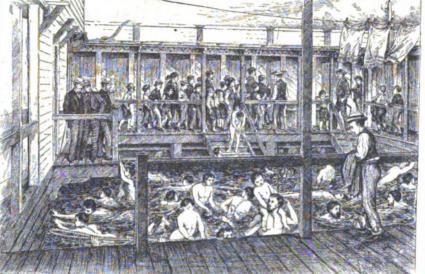
Of both steam and sailing craft there are built mere racing machines, slender and sharp, devoid of all comfort, and with an eye solely to speed. In the construction of these, America is, as usual, far in the lead. But for solid comfort with least risk the wise mariner selects a boat with perhaps a little less speed but much more room and stability.



All people make blunders sometimes, but ther seem to make more blunders when they, are addressing letters than at any other time. When the fact it understood that of the approximate 5,000,000 capackages of mail matter passing annually through the mails of Uncle Sam 7,000,000 eventually reach behands of Dead Letter Office Superintendent Lehands of Dead Letters of Letters and the United States that about five of the half per cent of this 7,000,000 contains enclosured money and negotiable papers and stamps; when it is clearly comprehended by the non-painstaking public that packages at the rate of between ninety-five and one hundred thousand are received per year, and that these are either eventually sold at public assistion or deposited to the credit of Brother Jonathanthen, and then only, will the major part of the public use pains in their handwriting and avoid illegibility, omissions and incorrect addresses when sending selecter, paper or package to friends via Uncle Sam's mail pouches. It is rare that any substantial loss ocurs except through carelessness and negligence of correspondents, and if those who use the mails would conform to the plain and simple requirements of the postal regulations, and would place name and address of sender upon the outside of the envelope or package, few such articles would go astray.

"Dead letters" are received at the rate of twenty thousand per day; eight thousand of these are without address.

Under the watchful care of Mrs. A. H. Evans a very curious collection is being accumulated in Washington. All these articles (except two mall pouches deposited as a reward for faithful service of ver ninety vers) on exhibition at th



runs a passageway opening into little booths or dressing-rooms, whose only furniture is benches and hooks, upon which the bathers leave their clothes.

and hooks, upon which the bathers leave their clothes.

During the sultry summer season long lines of men and boys wait for admission at all hours. Bathers are allowed about twenty minutes, at the end of which time the bath-house is cleared of its occupants and another lot admitted. Many are the devices of the urchins to obtain another swim, but if the vigilant policeman at the entrance spies a wet head of hair among the throng which press in, the owner thereof is summarily "bounced." Certain days are seapart for women and girls, and the attendance is surprisingly large. Altogether, this very practical city beneficence is an inestimable boon to the crowded immates of tenement districts, and a source of great pleasure and comfort to tired humanity to whom summer brings no well-earned vacation.

"BOOK ME FOR GREENFIELD."

The trials and tribulations of the victims of prohibition were quite as great a half century ago as at the present day. The lengths to which a man would go to relieve his "dryness" is illustrated by the following incidents of life in Greenfield, Mass., in the early thirties. The editor of a well-known New Orleans newspaper, who was travelling through New England, stopped at Northampton with the intention of spending several days in that beautiful town among the Berkshire Hills. Upon alighting from the stage, hot, dusty and very dry, he stepped into the tavern and asked for a drink of brandy. "We have no license," said the landlord, "to sell spirits; we do not keep the article." The editor visited the other public houses, called at the groceries and looked into cellars, but all in vain. Hotter, dustier and dryer than ever, he returned to the stage house and sald to the landlord. "Where can I get a drink?"

"I guess you can get it in Greenfield," said the landlord, "They have a license to sell liquor up there."

"How far is it?"

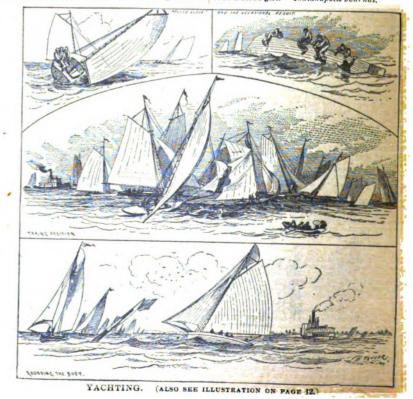
sides, sails are tattered and spars snapped, while the men tug with frenzied strength at tangled cordage to keep the frail craft upright against the elements.

Sketched in the accompanying illustrations are many events of the yachtman's sea-life. Amid fair weather and storms he prepares his meals in the tiny forecastle—usually too low for him to stand upright—with one eye on the cook-book and the other on the oil-stove. Another bright spot in his journeyings is when he runs into port and entertains company from the shore or other yachts; or with a fair, soft wind astern smoothly sails off into the starry night, bound for another port. These quiet times are what the yachtsman really enjoys, for however much he may talk, when the breezes blow, the seclusion which the cabin grants is

How He Spotted a Falsehood.

"What do you think of that artist who painted cob-webs on his ceiling so truthfully that the hired girl wore herself into an attack on hervous prostration trying to sweep them down?"
"There may have been such an artist, but never such a hired girl."—Indianapolis Journal.

a .. zn. v. 1



MY DEAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:



MY DEAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

UTHER you do not read the column carefully, or some of you are very forgetful. How long ago did I ask the Essay Club for postal card votes as to whether you would leave the disposal of the money on hand, to my discretion, or whether you would leave the disposal of the money on hand, to my discretion, or whether you would leave the badge on sale for 10c. each, but if any one who has not paid the yearly dues, sends for a badge, I shall to wear the badge—shi't that so, cousins? I have not found that lost letter yet, with the report of the committee upon the suggestion of the committee I will give as the subject for the next competition, The Jews, their past history, present condition, and future destiny." This is a theme which will require considerable study, and I shall leave it in the hands of the Club until January before announcing the terms of the competition. Meanwhile I hope that many new members may be added, and that all will put much intelligent thought and study upon the saibject.

I shall be orgonic the subject ask once more about the abded and that all will put much intelligent thought and study upon the saibject.

I shall be orgonic the subject ask once more about the amount, I often have as many as 50 or 75 letters sent me to forward, which in itself is no small task, looking up addresses, etc., when added to my other work. But when I am asked, in addition to this, to furnish stamps and envelopes, it becomes nothing short of an imposition, and I absolutely decline to do it any longer. Letters sent to me properly stamped and enveloped, with a note accompanying them stating where they are to be sent (for I am not a clairvoyant, and cannot read through a seaded envelope) will be done to the subject of the report of the country. The American people will be for post of the subject in the state of the subject of the state of the subject of the state of the subject of the su

enough to make a living.

The Mexicans are all inveterant ecigarette smok ers, men, women and children alike, but they hardly ever chew or smoke the pipe. Wisc.Wild Bill, give me your hand; for my part, I believe girls are a nuisance, if ever a fellow wants to go hunting or fishing, his big sister is sure to drag him off somewhere she could easily have gone by herself. Girls are always in the way, and bothering a fellow so that he can't have any peace. I have a collection of minerals and ores, and would be glad to exchange, and also correspond with cousins.

"Perhaps you would like to know how the young folks spend their time in eastern Colorado by way of entertainments. There are two classes of young people here, some who would much rather dance than sleep, and the other, those who gather and spend a social evening discussing topics for the benefit of our own educations. We are far apart, because the country is not settled up very well. A young person who tries to live a Christian life here has a very poor show, for over 2-3 of the young people belong to the dancing set. I myself do not believe there is any harm in the mere act of dancing, but I think that church members should not indulge. I would like to correspond with some of the cousins who are interested in educational matters.

IDA M. JEWETT, Akron, Colo."

You certainly deserve every encouragement in your forces to improve your minds, under so many disad-

You certainly deserve every encouragement in your forts to improve your minds, under so many disad-

ity to the Smithsonian Institute; but when it comes my turn to go to the happy hunting ground, I will leave a map for the guidance of any one who wishes to undertake the dangerous task. Would be pleased to correspond with cousins.

Is there something in the Montana air which is conductive to telling big stories? or is it the absence of "the refining inducence of woman, lovely woman." W. W. B. seems to be petting an alarming numan." W. W. B. seems to be petting an alarming numan." W. W. B. seems to be petting an alarming numan." W. W. B. seems to be petting an alarming numan. W. W. B. seems to be petting an alarming numan. W. W. B. seems to be petting an alarming numan. W. W. B. seems to be petting an alarming numan. W. W. B. seems to be guident to example the mental to let them know it.

"I suppose you have nephews of all, nationalities, and would like to add my name to the list as an Ieelander. I watch eagerly for Comport every month, and always turn first to the Chats. I laughed heartily when I read W. W. B.'s letter. He must possess more self-control than most people if he never intends to marry; but I think he is an active young man, and could easily run if fearful of capture. If the cousins will write to me, will give them a description of my native land, as so many people form strange ideas concerning it.

Glasston, Pembina Co., No. Dak."

"I am a young man living on a farm of 160 acres; am also a school-teacher. Webster is a thriving town of about 1,000 inhabitants located near the head of the Coteaux des Prairies, on the C. M. &St. P. R. R. This is a great wheat country, and some farms raise thousands of bushels. Corn in this latitude is not to be depended on. When I came here in 1882, this was all under water. This country has great extremes of heat and cold, and very sudden changes, but it is famous as a health resort. If any of the cousins would like an Eiglin typewriter, I will give them one in exchange for McGurdey's 5th reader, which I am very anxious to get. Arranta Bettras, Webster, Day Coasins

tion in this line was neglected, and I have never Dickens. I like same as I do a centipede. I beakin, but I think centipede is less is whiskey. L. B. likes to see two young people courting. He must be a very amiable disposition not to be jealous. Well, a young fellow is apt to know less, and say more about love and matrimony, than after he is grown gray and has willed his all to the children—as the shoemaker did. (Auntie forgive me.) I have been in this county 5 years now, and what a change in that time. The cattle ranch has faded away and in its place are waving fields. I was "up the trail" a few years ago, and I want to tell my cousins away back East, that a cowboy's life is very romantic, and sleep-out-o'-nights, to be sure. But the starry dome, with the Miky Way laid on blas, does not form the warmest of coverlids. Tarantulas do not help his sleep any, either. But poor lone herder on the plains, he cannot get a chance to read very much. Imagine a lone knight of the lasso sitting out on the bald howling prairie, clad in fringed buckskin "chaps," blue flannel shirt and formidable sombrero, and with his back to the blazing sun, reading Comport or Harpers, while his cayuse with his weighty saddle and trailing reins strays farther and farther away. I must stop now, as I am through.

Blessings on the rare man who knows enough to ston when he is through! his like has not been seen

Blessings on the rare man who knows enough to stop when he is through! his like has not been seen in my columns for many a day. Most people bave to be stopped before they have any idea of being through.

have any idea of being through.

"I live in Kans. and am a farmer's boy. Have taken Comport for 4 years, and think it is the best monthly out. As for love and matrimony, I don't intend to be an old bach. If I can't get a white girl to marry me, I will go down in the Ind. Ter. and get a squaw with 150 acres of land. I hate tobacco, and don't use intoxicating drinks of any kind. I think no gentleman should.

Hope all the cousins will write.

Your nephew.

Your nephew, HoE Down."

"I live in the pleasant little town of Kingston, Minn, about 75 miles from St. Paul. The surrounding country is well populated with farmers of every nationality. The land is a rich sandy loam, and yields abundant crops of wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, potatoes, all kinds of vegetables, and small fruits. There is a belt of timber along the river which produces excellent lumber of oak and elm, and some maple and basswood. In summer it is a real pleasure to ride through this section of country, as the senery is ever changing: fields of

of certainly deserve every encouragement in your efforts to improve your minds, under so many disact vantages.

"I live in the wild, romantic mountains of Montana; have been here 10 years. Although one of those peculiar creatures called an 'old bach,' and far from the refining influences of 'woman, lovely woman,' I still am happy and contented. Indeed, one good male friend is worth a dozen girls. The girls, (lovely creatures!) are so fickle that one cannot depend on them more than 24 hours at a time, while a man whis once a friend will always stick by you. Leading the life one does here, comrades are drawn closer to gether than is possible in the East. I can cook very will, make good bread, coffee, etc., and also delicious jack-rabbit pie or stew. Can wash my own clothes and patch them if necessary; and ignarantee I can put more worked in a crazy quilt. I often take long trips through the mountains on my trusty cayuse, accompanied by my dog Jim and my gun, in search of game and adventure; and it is only the fear of incurring the enmity of the Indians that prevents me from astonishing the world with a petrifaction discovered last summer in a cave near the Kiyah-plah (in plain English, Baid Butte.) This wonder ronsists of a petrified Indian, with all his clothes and accoutrements, as well as his own dusky person, turned into solid stone. I have often regretted my inability to present this wonderful curios-

ceptable gift to those who are fond of writing letters, but cannot afford the materials. Just one word more about schding reading matter to Shut-Ins. Don't send them trash, or some worthless, out-of-date newspapers; but substantial reading, such as will elevate their thoughts. How many of the cousins read Margaret Hamil's letter in a recent Comport? I have reliable testimonials as to her honesty, etc. Here is a chance for us to do work for the Master. Can we not make up a purse for this poor helpless girl? A little from so many would amount to quite a sum. You could send the money to me, or to Aunt Minerva. Would like to correspond with cousins. VENUS, Wisc."

I am aftaid that this appeal will turn out like the

VENUS, Wisc."

I am aftaid that this appeal will turn out like the one which was made some time ago for money to get Millard Ford a spring bed; I do not think that I received a dollar in all for that object. Surely there are many who could contribute 10c, for such a worthy end, and quite a sum might be raised without anyone being overtaxed. Not that I believe wholly in that kind of giving; it may help the recipient, but the giver does not get the blessing that he would from a little self-sacrifice. Give sintil you feel it, is the truly blessed way.

"Seeing a letter in Comfort by Earl McGrew about stamp collecting, he says that an English col-



stamps are worth from 5c. to \$100 each? It will pay to look them up.

Mrs. J. C. JAY,
Mrs. J. C. JAY,
Mt. Pleasant, Iowa."

In many an old garret there are letters stowed away whose stamps are worth a good price. I got 15c. for one U. S. stamp not long ago. It will pay any one to ransack their ancestors' love letters, with all due reverence for their departed shades!

"I live 10 miles from the city of Springfield, Mo., which is situated on the highest point of the Ozark Mts., the most important chain of mountains in the State. We are blessed with an abundance of pure water, rich agricultural land, and a healty climate. The Indian has left but few traces of his existence in this part of the country. Only an occasional burying-place on a high bluff, and a sprinkling of arrowheads over his favorite hunting-grounds. Correspondence solicited from Northern cousins.

WALTER HOWARD, Griffin, Mo."

I used to think the Ozark mountains were something really wonderful, until after I met some people from Springfield; but they informed me that the country about there was nearly as level as a prairie, and a gradual rise, extending over a great area of country, constituted the so-called "mountains."

These dwellers "on the top of the Ozark Mts." should visit the Alleghanies and the White Mts., and see what a mountain really is.

"I am glad that our proposed reunion seems to be coming forward to rank among the probabilities. With Aunt Minerva to direct and bring it to an effective realization, and to preside over the gathering she will have called together from the four corners of the earth, I am sure that our reunion will be long remembered. I hope that something a trife odd in the way of a badge may be devised for the occasion, for it will be the memento of a most novel occasion, and as such, will be worthy of a place among our keepsakes. And now during the coming months, let us make our letters short, so as to get acquainted with as many as possible of those whom we expect to meet.

Audres, Chicago, Ilis."

"I had a very ple

us make our letters short, so as to get acquainted with as many as possible of those whom we expect to meet.

AUDREY, Chicago, Ills."

"I had a very pleasant trip this summer to a place called Alpena, situated on Thunder Bay, Mich. On the way we saw many interesting sights, but one of the pretiest was Detroit. For some time before entering the city, the river may be seen through the trees' and looks very beautiful. After leaving Detroit, there came a time when the way 'seemed very long between the stations, for we were passing through some of the seenes of the Michigan fires. These forests were composed of dense groups of undergrowth, so dense that you cannot see a yard before you, while towering far above are tall pines, so tall they seem almost to reach the sky, and without one single leaf or branch, though it was the time that they should have been clothed in verdure. You may think this is a grand sight, and so it is; but when you have gone for miles with no change of program, your ride becomes very dreary. You ask if there are no houses. Yes; perhaps, once in 15 or 20 miles, you may catch a glimpse through the trees of a small shanty, with one window, sometimes with a pane of glass, but more often of wood, swinging back and forth on hinges. This shanty is generally built of logs, and has a dog or two on the doorstep. Many more things I would like to tell about my trip, if space would allow. Correspondence solicited.

"Will you make room in your circle for a Hoosier boy? I think all the departments of COMPORT very

logs, and has a dog or two on the goorsep. analymore things I would like to tell about my trip, if space would allow. Correspondence solicited.

GRACE Diggins, Monroeville, Ohio,"

"Will you make room in your circle for a Hoosier boy? I think all the departments of Comport very good, but like the Chats best of all, and always read them first. This page is in itself worth twice the subscription price of the paper. I live near the growing town of Elwood, Ind. A water-works plant is being put in and the town is abundantly supplied with Nature's best fuel, natural gas. The largest plate-glass factory in the world is located here, and the American tin-plate factory now being constructed will be the largest one of the kind in America. I wonder why those good old writers who used to grace the page, such as Pedagogue, Percy de Verc, Kans. Sunflower, and others, have so long been silent. Give us more of your interesting letters. As for novel reading, if boys and young men would spend their evenings at home reading good novels, instead of idling their time away around town, acquiring a pernicious street education, there would be fewer broken-hearted mothers, and the jails and penitentiaries would be less crowded. I do not believe that false and pernicious doctrine that youth should not be allowed to engage in innocent amusements. Those who condemn all works of fiction, and all theatrical performances, do so through ignorance. The trained and healthy mind winnows the golden grain from such things, and refuses the chaff. He who has to be kept in the path of duty by having it enclosed in walls of ignorance, deserves no credit for his goodness. I am glad that we are to have a reunion at the World's Fairs. Oh, what a grand event that will be! It will be worth 10 years of one's life to be able to say 'I was there.' Would be pleased to correspond with Cousins.

It would indeed be pleasant to hear from some of our old friends. Pedagogue, Aurora, Adonis, Dried-Out, Lone Star, Kans. Sunflower, where are you, and

forty-five days round up.' For, unlike Blossom, I have 'seen 'em,' and found them 'true as steel,' if not wonderful. Thistle, Mich." Now we must journey quickly to the South.

Now we must journey quickly to the South.
"I live in South Florida, near the Gulf. Our country is mostly level and has a great many rivers and lakes, in which fish are abundant. There is some pine land and some hammock land here; the hammock is a low, dense forest covered with large caks magnoila, palmetto, and cedar, all of which are useful. The magnoia is a beautiful tree, with its dark green leaves and snow-white blossoms.

"Ladwired the letter of "Lizzie Gleaton, Crystal River, Fla."

green leaves and snow-white blossoms.

Lizzie Gleaton, Crystal River, Fla."

"I admired the letters of Nellie and Dreamer very much. I will say to Dreamer that I am a Christian Endeavorer, and I am trying to serve and faithfully obey the good Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for the world, and suffered a shameful death that we might live. Cousins, one and all, are you trying to serve Jesus? If not, i beg of you to repent and turn to Him. I live in the northeastern part of Ark., near White river. This is a very picturesque part of the country; there are many stately pines, which make the scenery most exquisite in winter. The roads are very rough, but we are used to them. You may think we are not civilized down here, but we are, most of us. There is a rumor that a railroad is coming here; if that is so, then will be brought the great breath of Progress, which the country so much needs. I would like to correspond with some of the cousins.

Your niece,

"I live on Sauvies Island, a very pretty place. It is situated 14 miles below Portland, on the Columbia river, 13-4 miles below the mouth of the Willamette river. Now don't think I am like Robinson Crusoe because I live on an island, for it is quite thickly settled. It is 18 miles long and 6 wide. We have very good schools here.

"My last letter was written from the dear little 'Forest Home' farm, which is 2 miles from Carthage,

sectided. It is 18 miles long and 6 wide. We have very good schools here.

Sauvies, Oregon."

"My last letter was written from the dear little 'Forest Home' farm, which is 2 miles from Carthage, Ala., a small station on the 'Queen and Crescent' R. R. It is only 3 miles from the romantic Black Warrior river. Settlers on this farm have all the advantages of a healthful climate, abundance of fuel and building materials, pure water, fruits of many kinds. Almost everything that is ever produced in the South is raised here. There is now but little wild game; the fox, rabbit, turkey, partridge, etc., are still found. Though it has been dry, we have never had a real drouth. No cyclones, no grasshopper plagues, no chills and fever. The temperature in summer is rarely 90 degrees, and in winter seldom 20 degrees. I hope I have now answered most of the cousins' questions about this country; it was impossible to reply to all their letters personally. Hope to meet you at the Reunion.

MAY WARDS, Carthage, Ala."

"I see so few letters from our beautiful Kentucky, smay I say a few words to W.W. B. Suppose that the girls selected the worst man they could find, and judged all men by him; would it be just? but that is the way you do the girls. Did not Sadie say some true things of you? but not of Mr. Kemp; that was bad. I wish all your sex could say what you do of drinking and using tobacco. I say no man can be a gentleman who does use them. Dick's letter was good; excuse me, W.W. B., but you might profit by it. Why do not we hear more of the cow-boys?

"Please admit a nephew from the old Palmetto State. I am employed on a rice plantation on the

J. T. Grann, Jacksonboro, S. C."

I have often wondered what it is about a "wild" fellow which makes him so attractive to girls. But as there are plenty of sensible girls who prefer a really good young man, it really does not seem necessary for a fellow to be dissipated in order to win the favor of the "fair sex."

good young man, it really does not seem necessary for a fellow to be dissipated in order to win the favor of the "fair sex."

"I will tell something of the city in which I live. It is situated on the banks of the Schuylkill river, about 50 miles N. W. of Phila. It is a beautiful city, and has many points of interest. The mountain scenery is magnificent, and there are wonderful mountain railways which wind along the dizzy heights, and under the bright rays of the sun look like silver threads wound around the high summits to hold them together. Reading capitalists have built large hotels on the highest point of the various mountains, principally Mt. Penn and Neversink Mt., AGNES LEVAN, 428 Chestnut St., Reading, Penn."

"Glasgow is a very pretty little town situated just at the foot of the Blue Ridge mountains, on the bank of the James river, and in about 4 miles of the great Natural Bridge. Would that you and all the cousins could see this grand structure. Just think of a solid rock connecting 2 mountains, over which a public road passes. Under the bridge (215 ft. below) passes a stream of water called the Cedar Creek. The walls of the bridge are almost perpendicular, and on one side, about 50 ft. above the creek, one can see the name of George Washington, which it is said was carved with his ownhands Looking up from under the arch can be seen very distinctly the outlines of the American eagle. No one can reach this spot. Passing under the bridge and following a little mountain path for about half a mile, we reach what is called the 'Last River.' This is another curiosit, as no one can tell from where it comes er to where it goes. It can be seen

half a mile, we reach is called the 'Last River.' I This is another curiosit?, as no one can tell from where it comes one where it comes. It can be seen only from a small cave in the meantain, Thousands of visitors come here every summer. Would be pleased to tell you of the large cave recently discovered here, but fear I should take too much of COMPORT's valuable space. Will carve Aunt Minerva's name on the bridge when I am there again. With best wishes for all, I remain,

WALTER R. TEMPLE, Box 43, Glasgow, Va.*

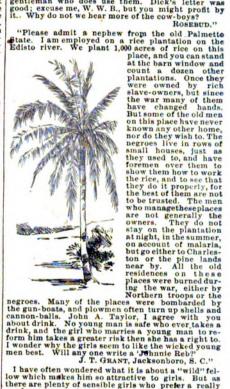
world's Fairs. Oh, what a grand event that will be World's Fairs. Oh, what a grand event that will be World's Fairs. Oh, what a grand event that will be It will be worth 10 years of one's life to be able to say 'I was there.' Would be pleased to correspond with cousins.

Incognito."

It would indeed be pleasant to hear from some of our old friends. Pedagogue, Aurora, Adonis, Dried Out, Lone Star, Kans. Sunflower, where are you, and many others?

"I am an exile, banished to this little lake-port town in pursuit of that will-o'-the-wisp, health. My home is on the top of a bluff 30 or 40 feet above the beach: the descent made possible if you are willing to be hurried, by the aid of brush willows, which give the face of the bluff much the same appearance as that of your cow-boy nephews at the close of 'a





the ranchmen, who then occupied this State. It was the men necessary to handle these great herds, that gave rise to the name of 'cow-boy.' Young men from the north and cast have immigrated to this sunny land, to become cow-boys, have come west to grow up with the country, until our country fairly warms with them. Courteous in their manner, and with a high estimate of the other sex, a more free and open-hearted class of men never lived. As the years have gone by, the industrious busbandman has come in and occupied the eastern half of the State, and converted it into broad farms and pastures. Extensive stock raising is carried on in the western part. I am sorry not to be able to answer personally all the letters which have come to me, but it would be impossible.

Geo. M. Fowler, McGregor, Tex.'

It is quite a journey from Texas to the Middle states, but we will make it quickly through the magic medium of Comfork.

It live in the town of Havana, N.Y.; it is situated

crates, but we will make it quickly through the magic medium of Comfort.

"I live in the town of Havana, N. Y.; it is situated in the midst of the great fruit region of the State, 3 mice from the famous Watkins Glen and Seneca Lake, one of the loveliest places on the globe. I am 2-P. O. cierk, have been in the business about 2 years. I have a chance to meet all kinds of people, and study their dispositions. I think Miss Nellie is just right in regard to love; it certainly is a holy passion, or why would God love us? Cousins, please write to me and you will receive a reply.

I have another of those very interesting letters from A. L. S., and I am sure that some of the cousins will be willing to be left out this time for the sake of having that letter in full. So now we will journey up into New England, and end our wanderings in the Old Bay State."

from A. L. S., and I am sure that some of the consist will be willing to be left out this time for the sake of having that letter in full. So now we will journey up into New England, and end our wanderings in the "Old Bay State."

"So many pleasant letters have come to me in answer to mine published last February that I find it impossible to reply to them all and therefore, Auntic, accept your invitation to 'come again' hoping you will let me say a word to the neglected ones. Don't call me hard names my cousins, truly I would have written to every one of you if I could, but as I couldint I want you to take this letter as penned for your especial benefit. To those who asked for shells, corals, etc., let me say I have none to exchange, having already given to friends and relatives all I could stare. This time I am going to give you a peep at Mew Bay (Java) where we went to renew our supplies of wood and water, the former article being free to all who cared to help themselves from the forest and no harbor dues to pay either. Not being quite sure where the waterfall was, father ordered out a hout for an exploring expedition as soon as the anchor was fairly down. After some scouting along the mainland we discovered the fall, which was a truly beautiful sight, the water tumbling in silvery showers from the almost perpendicular bank nearly 25 ft. above our heads. Just there the water was hardly deep enough to float our boat, so the five rowers jumped out, and wading to the fall, filled cups with the delicious cold water, passing them around that all might have a taste. Beside the fall grew a large tree its trunk in the water, and its topmost branches on a level with the bank. It threw a deep shade very welcome in that tropical country, and one of the men stepped underneath to drink his water, but a sudden call of 'Stand from under, Jim,' made him quickly jump away, and we all looked up to see something glistening and stirring among the thick branches. With one impulse every man sent a voleyof stone such as a fart flyi

"The modern marryr says." To finish my old days." To finish my old days." To finish my old days. The modern marryr says. The modern was middle sage, Plunged in despair and grief, for though I'm rich, nought can assure that a monkey was supring around my favorite seat and on the beach were seen the proposed of the says. And says and pear the says of the modern when the modern the sate has been from the dock the groups of monkeys and pear the says of the says venient prie of stone

had just been put in as bait, and the poor little creature was bleating piteously. When we exclaimed at the cruelty, they showed us the tiger could not get at the kid, even if he entered the trap, but I should think the poor little thing would die of fright if shut up with a tiger. After getting all the wood and water we needed we weighed anchor and started for Anjeir where— Did you speak Auntie? I'll not say another word, but make my bow and retire.

A. L. S., Box 335, Whitman, Mass."
In saying good-bye for this month, I want to thank the cousins for their many kind letters and evidences of thoughtful remembrance and I beg to commend to the special attention of every old and new cousin the liberal offer of the publishers of CoMPOSIT printed herewith under the head of Artistic Monogram Prizes. With best wishes,

Artistic Monogram Prizes.

The publishers of Comfort, always on the lookout for some new plan which will interest and benefit their readers, have decided to encourage meritorious contributions to this department of the paper by a most attractive system of prizes. You will notice the new feature which has been introduced this month, of illustrating some of the most original letters by unique and artistic designs. This we hope to make a permanent feature of the column In addition to this, the publishers will in future award beautiful monograms, composed of the writer's initials, to those sending the most interesting and original letters. These monograms will be specially designed by some of the best artists in America at a cost of from five to ten dollars each, and will be most desirable ornaments for marking stationery, cards, etc. They will accompany the letters in the column of Comfort, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed post-paid to the prizewinners.

It is desired to eliminate personal matter from the column as far as possible, and to have the letters treat of topics of general interest. In future, all persons writing to this department must be regular subscribers to Comport. and must write over their own name, thus avoiding much unnecessary trouble. This rule does not apply to those who have previously written under a nom de plume, but will go into force upon the publication of this issue of COMFORT. No letter should be sent to this department unless the writer is willing it should appear over his own signature.

Plucky Western Women.

Throughout the great West are scattered

Throughout the great West are scattered numbers of women who have grown wealthy as miners, ranchers and homesteaders, says the New York Ledger. They owe success to the fact that they "got ahead of the men" by reason of superior pluck and shrewdness.

One of the most conspicuous cases is that of two Los Angeles girls who visited Santa Fe and filed upon homesteads they had located there. The land lies on the eastern slope of the Zuni mountains, and in order to reach the place the women had to travel 18 miles from the railroad station, walking much of the time because of the bad roads, and often wading through two feet of snow. A number of men were waiting at the railroad settlement for the snow to thaw, so that they could locate claims; but the women said they had no time to wait, and they waded through the snow.

COSTS LITTLE, EFFECTS MUCH.

"Oh, where's the use of having wealth?"
The modern martyr says.
"I'd sooner far be blest with healt!"
To finish my old days!
Yet here I am at middle age,
Plunged in despair and grief,
For though I'm rich, nought can assuage
My pain, or bring relief!"
"Pray what is it you suffer from?"

And long the test has stood."
"I'd spend my fortune gladly now!"
The victim then exclaims,
"If I could ease my aching brow
Which fever oft inflames!"
"Par less than that will bring you health,"
Replies the seer serene,
"It only takes a little wealth
To purchase some OXIEN!"

Tobacco Heart Cured.

Viroqua, Wis, April 2, 1892.

I wish to add my testimonial in behalf of Ozien, as it has cured me of the tobacco habit. I had used tobacco for over thirty years and I now have no desire for it after having taken two or three boxes of Oxien.

M. V. Tamer.

The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Me., are receiving many unsolicited testimonials of this nature and are sending free samples of Oxien to all who apply this

The following conversation occurred recently just before a wedding. Bride to be: "What do you think is the reason that marriage is often a failure?" Best man: "Because the bride does

Lord De Void-"Have you ever been presented at court, Mrs. Lakeside?" Mrs. Lakeside-"Oh, lots of times! There isn't a judge in Chicago that doesn't know me. I've been divorced three

See that team of horses, how nicely they go together, John. Why can't a man and woman pull together like that?" "There's every reason my dear. Those horses only have one tongue

WHAT IT WILL DO.

To all those who have been led to test the virtues of Oxien by the results it has accomplished right under their own eyes, it is not necessary to speak of what this Wonderful Food for the Nerves will do; but to those who are not yet acquainted with its magical health-renewing and life-giving properties we wish to say that a single trial of Oxien will tell the true story of its worth. Oxien differs from any and every thing else as day differs from night, and its effects differ from the effects of other so-called foods and medicines as day differs from night. It is not a stimulant. It is not a drug or so-called "tonic," which merely excites the nervous system. It nourishes and feeds the nerves, blood, and brain. It infuses new vigor and vitality into the broken-down system, and its effects are as astonishing as they are lasting. It is absolutely pure, free from any and all harmful ingredients, and is sold under a written guarantee and under the official endorsements of medical authority. The testimony of thousands whom it has lifted from a helpless and hopeless condition of long-suffering, and the praise of the thousands whom it has cured after medicines and doctors had utterly failed, tell the tale of this wonderful discovery more effectively than words can portray. And this testimony is open to public inspection.

The claims we make for Oxien are:—

- 1. That it is wholly original and unlike any thing ever offered to the public.
- 2. That its effects are original, and unlike the effects of any
- 3. That it will give new strength, new life, and new hope after every thing else has failed.
- 4. That it is the only real Food for the Nerves ever discovered, and that one trial will prove the truth of this.

To those whose systems have become debilitated and wrecked by overwork, worry, imprudence, or excesses of any kind, it is a godsend. The weakest stomach will retain it, and readily extract its life-giving, vitalizing, and nerve-feeding properties. Those who doubt this should read

WHAT IT HAS DONE.

Krinsas Doctors Dumfounded.—W. H. Lowe, Americus, Kan., writes that his father was confined to his bed for months, completely broken down. When all the doctors had given him up and said he could not live, he tried Oxien. After taking one dozen tablets he was enabled to get up, walk about, and enjoy himself. Its marvellous effect stirred up the neighbors, friends, and whole town. Other people whose doctors had given them up also used Oxien, and pronounce it the most powerful and strengthening food in existence.

Nervous Proatration Twenty Years.—Mrs. E. A. D. Whitney, Fisher Street, Peoria, Ill., says: "For the last twenty years I suffered from nervous prostration, neuralgia, and heart failure at times, and I was rarely ever free from pains and ills caused by weak nerves until I tried the Wonderful Food for the Nerves, Oxien. Its effects have been marvellous. I have not had a return of nervous head ache since I began using it, but am perfectly well. I recommend Oxien to all those suffering from nervous weakness. It has been a blessing to me, and many of my friends have also been restored to health by it."

Ohio Doctors Could Do Nothing. — Mrs. John Houglan, Sharon Centre, O., writes that her husband was subject to fits for a long time, and that the doctors could do nothing to help him. With the use of Oxien the attacks ceased, and ever since taking this Wonderful Food for the Nerves he has had no sign of his old trouble.

Massachusetts Doctors Failed.—Mr. John Slinn, General Agent Vermont Life Insurance Co., writes: "A year ago I was so sick a man that my life was at one time despaired of. My pulse was so irregular as to cause me the greatest distress and slarm. My stomach was so out of order that almost every thing I ate distressed me. I derived benefit from neither the local nor Boston doctors, and greve constantly worse. At this time my attention was called to Oxien, and after using one Giant box I was a perfectly well man, free from nervousness, my pulse as strong and regular as twenty years ago, and I can eat a square meal of any kind of food without feeling the slightest distress. I have not a bodily ache or pain. I consider it a simple duty to say that Oxien brought me new strength and new life, and that over one hundred cases have come to my notice where Oxien has proved itself the most wonderful Food for the Nerves and health-giving remedy in existence."

Thought She must Die, — Julia M. Perry, Marysburg, Minn, writes: "I was sick in bed with leart ailment and other troubles so common to my server."

among others."

Thought She must Die. — Julia M. Perry, wonderful Food for the Nerves and health-giving remedy in existence."

Praise from the Pacific Coast. — A. F. Evick, The Dalles, Ore., writes: "The best thing I ever saw to help sick people is Oxien. It is truly a wonderful cure for backache, bad colds, La Grippe, headache, and other diseases. One lady who had suffered from serious cold and La Grippe for a long time, and had not slept for a week restored by a few of the Oxien.

Afflicted for Seven Years. — Mrs. Jethro Sharpe, Worden, Ill.: "I have used one Giant box of Qxien, and am sure it has done me more good than all medicines. Our little girl has been afflicted with a nervous disorder for seven years. Since using Oxien her mind is better, and she is improving fast. I myself have been in the hands of doctors for the past two years, but they could do me no good. Thank God! I am now better, and do not get good. Thank God! I am now better, and do not get good. Thank God! I am now better, and do not get it belts and everything! could hear of, but got no help from them. Oxien is the only thing that did tired while trying to work, and I give Oxien the

Cured at the Age of Fifty-two. — Mrs. Ries E. S. Phillips, St. Augustine, Fia., age fifty-two, was for years a great sufferer from nervous prostration; had no appetite; could not sleep; looked miscrable, and would start at the least sound. Just to sweep the hall obliged her to rest several hours. The use of Oxien improved her so much, she say, that she now can sweep, scrub, work in the garden, and keep on the go all the time. "I am well and strong again, and several others to whom I have given this Wonderful Food for the Nerves have all experienced the same-improvement."

Was Unable to Stand on his Legs. — P. O. Olson, Vine Street, Paterson, N.J., reports: "My daughter's little boy was so weak for a long time that he was not able to stand on his legs. Oxien made him strong, healthy, and happy, and he can run across the floor like lightning. This Wonderful Food for the Nerves also relieved me of a terrible catarrh and heart trouble, from which I had suffered for years."

Would have been Dead. — Mrs. William W. Hinckley, Highlands, Col.: "I was afflicted with the worst stomach trouble I ever knew of, and thought at times I had cancer of the stomach. Oxten cured me, and all my friends agree in saying that my cure was truly wonderful. Others here who have tried it for similar complaints have derived the same happy results, and a bedridden consumptive, after taking three boxes of Oxien, came to my house and told me that she knew she would have been dead were it not for this wonderful food."

who had suffered from serious cold and La Grippe for a long time, and had not slept for a week, was restored by a few of the Oxien tablets."

Afflicted for Seven Years. — Mrs. Jethro Sharpe, Worden, Ill.: "I have used one Giant box of Qxien, and am sure it has done me more good than four doctors."

Nove Good than Four Doctors. — Mahala M. Reinsberg, Middletown, Md., writes: "The best results have followed the use of Oxien, the both results have followed the use of Oxien, the both results have followed me more good than four doctors."

OXIEN

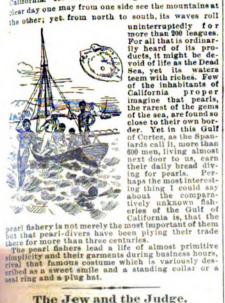
is sold in Giant boxes, costing one dollar each, and in small boxes, costing thirty-five cents each. Beware of worthless imitations which swindling concerns, here, there, and elsewhere. try to palm off on the reputation of Oxien.

Write for a copy of our booklet, "A Lucky Investment," and for terms and free samples to agents. You can make lots of money handling Oxien.

THE CIANT OXIE CO., SOLE PROPRIETORS, AUGUSTA, ME.

The Pearl Divers of the California Gulf.

Between the western shores of Mexico and the anountainous land that extends for 700 miles beyond california's southern border lies the great Gulf of California. Its width is not so great but that on a clear day one may from one side see the mountains at the other; yet. from north to south, its waves roll



The Jew and the Judge.

The well known propensity of the Hebrew to in-large in trade at all times, in season and out, is well lustrated by the following story: a Jew was on the witness-stand, testifying against negro who had stolen a pair of pantaloons from his tore.

negro who had stolen a parsource.

"How much are the cants worth?" asked ludge Thompson.

"Well, Judge," responded the witness, "independs on the man that wants to buy hem. I sell them to one man for \$6, to another for \$5, but you can have them for \$4,"

"Sir," responded his Honor in a disgusted tone of voice, "I want you to tell me what those pants are worth."

"Ah, Judge," said

h, Judge," said Israelite, "take for \$3 if \$4 don't

m for S3 if S4 don't life you."

"Look here," thunread the Judge, "if you don't tell me the
tax value of them
ania, I will send you
a lall for contempt
"Foil, then, Judge," pleaded the obtuse witness in
most instinuating tone of voice, "take 'em for \$2.
is giving them away almost, but you can have 'em
22" By this time the people in the court-room were cavulsed with laughter, and the Judge himself was sliged to forget his disgust and join heartily in the augh.

HOW CITY GIRLS DEVELOPE THEIR FORMS and features by Gymnastics, was the title of an article which was advertised to appear in this month's conferr, but was unavoidably delayed publication still a later day. It will soon be presented along with other matters of great interest to ladies and the stries of exciting short stories which we have will probably begin with September.

A MOTHER'S SUFFERING.

Every woman is a fraid of mate-mity when she sees the terrible agony of her sisters with caked breast. If she sends to the E. B. C. CO., box 61, East Orange, N. J., by mail or wire with a remitance of \$5 she will receive an Elastic Breast Compressor a most simple and comfortable guarantee against threatening or developed taked breast. Ask any reputable physician about it.

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Our Blood Treatment CLEARS Complexion and Brightens the EYE. Is harmless, though powerful. DR. KISTLER, Columbus, O.



to agents, 10c. Stamps taken. Sells like tes cakes. N.E, Pipe Co. So, Norwalk, Ct

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FARMERS' WIVES. How to make money on Withe AMERICAN MFG. CO., Waynesboro, Pa.

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Bottled Electricity for Catarrh & Pain. Want Agents.

OLD GOINS WANTED. \$1,000 for 1804 dollar, \$5.75 for 1803 quarter, \$2 for 1806 ct., and Big Prices for 900 other kinds if as required. Send stamp for particulars. W. E. Skinner, 325 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.



BOTTLED ELECTRIC BELTS.
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We UNDERSELL EVERYTHING ELECTRICAL
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you can become a first-class Book-keeper within 100 hours' study of my book, at home, without the aid of a teacher, (guaranteed) at a cost of only \$31 One purchaser says: "Tis worth \$500.00!" 33,227 copies sold! 3,158 testimonials received! SAVE THIS and send for a descriptive pamphlet. J. H. GOODWIN, 333, 1215 B'way, New York.

PILES Remedy Free. INSTANTRELIEF. Final ours in Itudays. Never returns; no parge; no salve; no suppository. A victim tried in vain every remedy has discovered a simple cure, which he will mail free to his fellow suf-



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HILL HEPAYS LADIES' CHATLETTE 14 K GOLD double plated. Watch, Bow and Swive

15

Whether

To the first person sending correct answer to above rebus (which represents a beautiful sentimental flower) WE WILL GIVE IN CASH \$500; to 30, \$200; to 30, \$400; to 4th, \$75; to each of the next fitteen \$5 each; to each of the last bo an elegant set of sliver plated teaspoons. With your answer to rebus send 25 eents in sliver or postal note, or 80 cents in postage stamps, for a six months subscription to our illustrated 15-page family journal, "The Ingleside," Answers must be sent on or before the 15th day of October, 1892. Our November issue will announce the result of this contest, with the names and addresses of the winners. We make this liberal offer to advertise our Family Monthly and introduce it into new homes.

**Ye are well able and shall promothat we give increase of the subscription of the promothat we older to those who guess our address in the ingleside, bepartment 19 Park Place, New York, N. Y.



EXPENSE. THE NATIONAL MFG. & IMPORTING CO., 334 Dearborn St., Chicago, III.

CARDS We sent CARDS, not rerees, riddies and TRASH, Agent's cuttin of party 50 may acryles for a 2st. stance, and a marrie present FAREH. ALLEMY BIROD., Durbana, coan.

OVER 20 FULL LENGTH FIGURE STUDIES

RODS and Dip-Needles for Prospectors, Miners and Treasure Seekers. Prospectors and Miner's Agency, Bachmanville, Pa



HAIR ON THE FACE, NECK, ARMS OR ANY PART OF THE PERSON # MOPENE #



N N

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AND THE GROWTH FOREVER DESTROYED WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST

INJURY OR DISCOLORATION OF THE MOST DELICATE SKIN.

Discovered by Accident.—IN Consconding a incomplete mixture was accidentally epilled on the back of the hand, and on washing afterward it was discovered that the hair was completely removed. We puschased the new discovery and named it MODENE. It is parfectly pure, free from all injurious substances, and so simple any one can use it. It acts middly but surely, and you will be surprised and delighted with the results. Apply for a few minutes and the hair disappears as if by magic. It has no resemblance whatever to any other preparation ever used for a like purpose, and no scientific discovery ever attained such wonderful results. IT CAN NOT FAIL. If the growth be light, one application will remove it permanently the heavy growth such as the beard or hair on moles may require two or more applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each application, and without slightest

NOT FAIL. If the growth be light, one application will remove it permanently the heavy growth anch as the beard or hair on moiss may repuir two or more applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each application, and without slightest injury or unpleasant feeling when applied or ever afterward. **BOOKER SUPERCRISE SLEXTROVY 45S.**

Recommended by all who have tested its merits—Used by people of refinement.

**Gentlemen who do not appreciate nature's gift obserd, will find a priceless boon in Modene, which does away with shaving. It dissolves and destroys the life principle of the hair, thereby rendering its future growth an utter impossibility, and its guaranteed to be as harmless as water to the skin. Young persons who find an embarrassing growth of hair coming, should use Modene on the state of the stat

YOU NOTHIN nemined to introduce our fine Gold and Gold Filled Watches in every state, and dif-m all others, we offer as our leader the FIREST SOLID GOLD WATCH WE HAVE. We thought of the readers of this paper who heretofore have mover answered advertise-take advantage of our WONDERFIL OFFER and the grown answered advertise--The same

MR. A. C. ROEBUCK, 31D Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. DEAR SIR:—I send you by express today \$19.75 in ayment for watch. I am surprised to find it such an elegant watch. I set the Express Agent to take it of Uniontewn and rices and if I can get you any orders I will gladly do so.

A. C. ROEBUCK Esq., (Successor to the Warren Co.) Minne. State of the Express Agent to take it of Uniontewn and roles and in the Warren Co.) Minne. A. C. ROEBUCK Esq., (Successor to the Warren Co.) Minne. Deer Ric.—Your watch received on the 6th roles of the Express Agent to take it of Uniontewn and roles in your well pleased with it and think it the best watch for last a beauty. I could have sold it a dozen times for twice the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the among. Now, if there is anything you want me to do please avines me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue, prices and conditions as to the case and me your catalogue. All the prices and the prices and the prices and the prices and the provents and the prices and the provents and the p

Lock Box 85.

C. Appeares E. C. Munors.

C. Appeares E. C. Munors.

Roerec & Co. Gents:—Received the watch a week ago.

Will say it far surpasses my expectation. For houses, equare and reliable firm than Rocbuck & Co. angled to find I can dealing I can recommend your house as one that gives more of more properties of the money than any other house in the United Section 1. Border in the Company of the money than any other house as one that gives more order, as I can get what is advertised. I will favor you with my future order, as I can get just what I send for.

Yours, &c.

We seem you to order to drug. This money and help and the section of the control of t

cant you to order to day. This paper may get lost and the act, never appear again. Address A. C. Roebuck. 319 Nicollet Avenue, Binneapolis, Minn. MENTION COMPORT.

A Fortune in a Puzzle! A Prize For Every Correct Word.

Eight Prize word-Ruddles.									
	1	A - e - i c -	The best country on Earth.	5	F tu - e	Try, try again if you would win one.			
E O	2	S-in0-	The man best remembered by the people of the United States.	6	B - C - C - e	What every boy and many girls now want.			
	3	C C 0	A city much praised by its inhabitants.	7	H - m ck	For idle people in Summer.			
	4	El - c 0 -	An interesting event next Novem- ber.	8	T - b co	Don't acquire the habit.			
7	Explanation Each dash appearing in the partially spalled words above given indicates the								

Explanation.—Each dash appearing in the partially spelled words above given indicates the absence of a certain letter. When the proper letters are supplied, the word selected by us will be found complete. Example: H—rs—, something that every farmer should possess. In this case the omitted letters are o and e, and when properly inserted the completed word is horse.

PRIZES FOR EVERY CORRECT ANSWER.

For the FIRST correct answer to ALL of the entire Eight words. 1 Cash Prize, value \$500.00

For the SECOND correct answer to ALL of the entire Eight words. 1 Cash Prize, value \$600.00

For the THIRD correct answer to all of the entire Eight words. ... 1 Cash Prize, value \$200.00

FOR EVERY CORRECT ANSWER TO ANY ONE WORD, One Prize, value \$10.00. For every correct answer to any TWO words, 20.00 For every correct answer to any SIX words, 60.00 For every correct answer to any SIX words, 80.00 For every correct answer to any SIX words, 70.00 For every correct answer to any SIX words, 70.00 For every correct answer to any FIX words, 50.00 For every correct answer to any FIX words, 50.00

Remember, Every Correct Answer Wins a Prize

AND PRIZES ARE PAID AS FAST AS CORRECT ANSWERS ARE RECEIVED.

As fast as replies come in the prizes will be paid for Each Correct Answer Received and the 8 correct words with names of winners of Prizes will be published in our December number which will be 500,000 copies. We have ample capital and will promptly pay every prize offered.

Conditions. The object of this extraordinary offer is, of course, to secure subscribers at once and in large numbers. We therefore require that 30 cents for be remitted with every answer. If answers are sent to more than one word the name of a subscriber must be sent for every word that is answered. Thus, if you send answers to two words, send two names and 60 cents, and so on, one name and 30 cents for each word you answer. Designate the words you answer by their Numbers. Be wise and SEND YOUR ANSWER TO-DAY. Address all letters and make all remittances payable to JAMES LEE & CO., Publishers, 189 Broadway, N. Y. City.

Dimmetto: I have a treat for you this month, a delightful letter from our "beloved physician," and shall let that take the place of any words of my own, for I know all would much rare pleasure of a letter from his wife, who has never written to us before; so you can be looking forward to that. Y DEAR FRIENDS

written to us before; so you can be looking forward to that.

"Cheerfulness and good spirits depend in a great degree upon bodily causes. Happiness is not impossible without health, but it is not always easy of attainment. I do not mean by health, simply freedom from dangerous complaints, but that all the functions of the body should be in perfect accord. A great part of the unhappiness in the world arises from disordered bodily functions. A bit of undigested tood or an inactive liver may cause one to look upon life through dark glasses instead of rosy ones.

"Henry Ward Beecher once told me that he often had people come to him for religious consolation, when their livers were torpid, who would never think of coming at other times. In his inimitable way of relating a story, he told of a man who had lately called on him. He was a man who had an enormous appetite, which he gratified to the extent of producing great obesity and consequent disease of the liver. Mr. Beecher said, 'It was not one of my profession that he needed, but one of yours. There are whole herds of beef between that man and Heaven.'

"A purpose is always a companion, and an earnest purpose is the closest of companions. To fulfil duties is more than to enjoy pleasures. Keeping the mind constantly employed leaves no time for useless forebodings or vain regrets. Much of the bitterest loneliness is the world arises from an exorbitant and morbid self regard, the important presence of self in attention.

"Present happiness is always a companion, and expenses is every materi-

morbid self regard, tatention.

"Present happiness is very materially affected by happiness in prospect. Mankind are always happier for having been happy, so that if we can make a nother happy now, we make them happy in the future by the memory of it. No enjoyment is confined to the present. The recollection of past pleasures is to me a great source of happiness. Many times during the past 5 years of helpless invalidism, I have in very realistic imagination revisited cities and countries in the old world with which I was familiar in earlier years.

'In the secretchambers of the brain.

'In the secret cham-bers of the brain, Are memories link-ed by many a hid-den chain.

Awake but one, and lo! what myriads

rise, Each stamps its im-port on another as it flies.'

port on another as it files.

The withdrawal from active life is not without certain c om pens at ions. Streams flowing from theglaciers are turbid and filled with useless debris; but drawn apart in glens and wayside pools, they become clear, having deposited the sediment they once held in solution. Human souls withdrawing from the rush and friction of the world and resting in quiet places, grow transparent, precipitating the abrasions of life. With an intelligence sufficiently sensitive to apprehend the revelations, every moment of time is surcharged with expressiveness. In the deepest apparent stillness, sounds will betray themselves to those who have finer sense and pay keener attention than ordinary. On the Alps, when everything seems so deathly quiet in the darkness, place your ear at the surface of the ice, and you may catch the tinkle of the rivulets running all through the night in the veins and hollows of the frozen hills. Has not the soul, too, its buried streams of feeling, whose movements only the most absorbed listening in the most hushed moments, can distinguish?

"Noble souls through dust and heat, Rise from disaster and defeat

'Noble souls through dust and heat, Rise from disaster and defeat The stronger, And conscious still of the divine Within them, lie on earth supine No longer.'

No longer.'
W. E. ANTHONY, M.D., Providence, R. I." W. E. ANTHONY, M.D., Providence, R. I."

"Much so-called religion is only a disordered liver,"
I heard a pastor remark not long ago; but I would be
more inclined to put it the other way—that the lack
of faith and spiritual duliness with which so many
earnest Christian souls are burdened, is merely the
result of some physical ailment which needs an
earthly physician more than a heavenly. It is not so
much prayer as physic that they need, to restore
their peace of mind. It is hard to be pleasant and
cheerful when every nerve protests against the effort, but there is one who will help, and who says,
"My grace is sufficient for you; for My strength is made
perfect in weakness."

"I think it is so nice to have a corner all to our-

retrieve tin weakness."

"I think it is so nice to have a corner all to oursalves. I have been a cripple unable to walk for 16 years; and still I am able to enjoy life, for I don't think it is right for any one to be unhappy and worry, no matter how we are afflicted, for if it was God's will to have us so, we should be satisfied. I came to Bayard, Iowa, in Feb. My brother brought me when on his way to Montana. This is the first time I have ever been away from home all by myself, and it seems quite strange to me. The invalid sisters all have my deepest sympathy, and I wish I could do something for each one. Many thanks to those who sent me flowers, etc. My old address was Spring Hill, Ill. My new one is

would be thankful for letters, or anything to amuse ayself. MOLLIE E. WILLIS, Lamont, Ga." "I am lame and cannot go out much, so would like o have any of the married cousins write to me. I

ry to answer all. Mrs. Emma Eldredge, East Orrington, Me."

ear cousins:—I am trying to get me a wheel-chair; you not help me by sending me cancelled stamps nything else to help a little? I have some verses ch are just suited to our case, dear suffering or anything else to help a little? I have which are just suited to our case, de friends.

If Christ would leave me where I am, Here I will stay.

If He would have me as I am, I say not nay.

If He should bid me forward go, Obey I must:

If He would have me as I am,
I say not nay,
If He should bid me forward go,
Obey I must;
Although to me the way be dark
Him I can trust.
And if He grant me active work,
I would be glad;
But though He bid me waiting be,
I'll not be sad.
And should He give me health and strength,
They are His own;
And though a life of pain be mine,
I'm not alone;
For though the fires around me burn,
My God is near;
And with Him ever by my side,
I've naught to fear.
And if a life of constant pain
Be His decree,
I'll work for Jesus where I am,
And cheerful be.
And so, whatever may befall
This mortal frame,
I'll trust forevermore
Jehovah's name;
And resting in the Master's arms,
I cannot fall,
For Jesus Christ, our King,
Is Lord of all.
Marghert Hamil, Floy, Ala."
Dear Comport Friends:—To those who have been
offend in the house all winter, how pleasant these Dear Comfort Friends:—To those who have been confined in the house all winter, how pleasant these bright summer days are. The ever-changing beauty of the clouds, the sound of the wind in the trees, singing birds, and the sweet perfume of flowers, are enjoyment free to all. We all have much to be thankyourself of their integrity. I have written to some of those who have asked for favors, and they say few respond to their appeal. Dear friends, if you are anxious to work, why is this? To those who have sent me reading matter I return sincere thanks. I am glad of all I can got, for I can place it where it is so welcome. The hunger for mental food is harder to bear than physical suffering, as I know from past experience, and I mean never to let a cry for reading go unheeded as long as I have any to send. Of course we meet with frauds, but let us not weary in well doing because of that. Better risk supplying a fraud, than to let a sick sister long for "something to read" to pass away the dull, lonely hours of invalidism. With love and best wishes to all.

MARIA JOHNSON, Pardeeville, Wis.

Miss Johnson has expressed just what I would like

COMFORT.

Maria Johnson, Pardeeville, Wis.

Miss Johnson has expressed just what I would like
to say, in favor of our Shut-Ins. It is easy enough to
find work to do very near home, in more senses than
one. Write to those whose names appear at the end
of the column, and see what they need, not forgetting
to enclose the stamp for reply; give everyone whose
name appears in the Birthday List, a rousing "letter
party" on that day, Oh, there is so much to be done,
but "she laborers are few!"

SHUT-IN BIRTHDAY LIST.

Whitaker-Barfell, Lake Valley, New Mex.,

Mary Whitaker-Bariet, Last Sept. 13.

Mrs. E. Jones, Alexander City, Ala., Oct. 4.

Mrs. E. A. Brons, Vernonia, Columbia Co., Oregon, July 26.

Mrs. H. W. Brown, Box 11, Kinde, Mich., Aug. 29.

Mrs. M. M. Butler, Lee, Childress Co., Tex., Sept. 10.

Mrs. M. J. Adams, East Barnard, Vermont, Aug. 26.

Miss Enerette Mason, Leonardsville, N. Y., Aug. 10.

Mrs. Grace Philips, Wymore, Gage Co., Nebr., Sept 28.

"Among the army of Shut-Ins there is a lady who

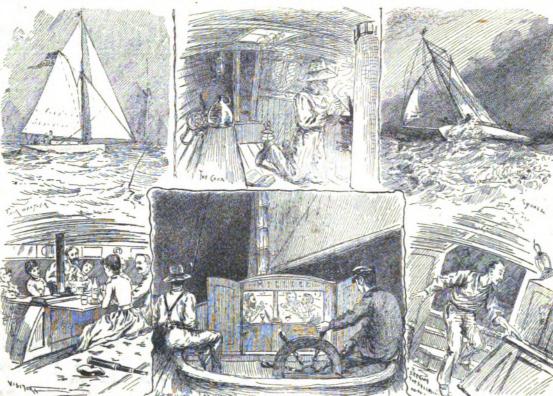
Mrs. Grace Philips, Wymore, Gage Co., Neur., Sept 28.

"Among the army of Shut-Ins there is a lady who has been a helpless invalid for nearly 20 years. I would like to procure an invalid lifter for her but the present state of the funds of the Medical Bureau will not admit of it. Will the cousins who desire to aid in this matter send each a small amount, say 10c. each, and interest some friend to contribute an equal sum to be forwarded to me with their own contribution. An acknowledgement of all sums will be made. I am sure that the case is one which would appeal to everyone who desires to do something in His Name. W. E. Anthony, 44 John St., Providence, R. I."

Names of worthy Shut-Ins needing our assistance:
Texas Cousins, address with Aunt M., (letters, etc.)
Miss Susan Wilson, Croton-on-Hudson, N. Y., (silk
pieces, reading, etc.)
Miss Mira Wilson, Box 35, So. Salem, Ohio, (reading, letters, etc.)
Mrs. Rita Cates, Marysville, Texas, (assistance.)
Kate Edwards, Peace Grove, La., (reading and letters.)

Lottie M. Soey, Versailles, Mo., (letters.)
Chas. P. Suyls, Gamma, Mo., (reading and letters.)
Emily C. Gustin, Militown, Ark., (assistance.)
Mollie S. Barbour, Rough Creek, Va., (reading.)
Miss Lizzle Lowe, Rutledge, Tenn., (stamps, etc.)

AUNT MINERVA. With best wishes.



YACHTING.

ful for. I have been sick a great deal, and have felt lonely, a Shut-In truly from the outside world; but true happiness does not depend on the good things of this world, nor on fair weather friends, who forget one in adversity. It cheers the heart and makes life hrighter to know there are many good Christians who do care for those less fortunate than themselves, and are ever ready to scatter seeds of kindness. I thank those who have sent me reading, etc. Let us all try to do what good we can and make those around us happy. It is such a little while here, and all eternity of peace and joy for God's children. I hope we may all meet in our Father's house.

Mrs. E. C. THOMPSON, Bowess Mills, Mich.

"I noticed in your chat with Ethel Halliday, that

Mrs. E. C. Thompson, Bowess Mills, Mich.

"I noticed in your chat with Ethel Halliday, that
you welcomed old people, if they were as old as
Methuselah. So here I come; not that I am as old as
he, although my years do number 60. Having observed in Comport with high regard, your kind advice and impartial instruction to your host of nieces
and nephews, I intrude on your generosity. I felt
you would not turn me away, for I have come a long
way, and am tired; old age tires quickly when
freighted with two crutches. I think that Sunshine
is a daughter of the Great King, who is the power of
God unto the salvation of men. With simplicity of
heart, and willingness of spirit, may we all humbly
obey His mandates, going about doing good to all
mankind In His name. Human sympathy is pure
godliness.

"I have been a great deal worse since I last wrote,
"I have been a great deal worse since I last wrote,

godiness. A SHUT-IN, Iowa."
"I have been a great deal worse since I last wrote, but am now better. I thank you all kindly for letters sent me; they have cheered me up wonderfully. Will answer all who send stamp. Please do not send any more newspapers. Would like a few more pieces for my quilt. Many thanks for your kindness.

Mrs. H. W. Brown, Box 11, Kinde, Mich."

"I think it is so nice to have a corner all to oursolves. I have been a cripple unable to walk for 16 years; and still I am able to enjoy life, for I don't think it is right for any one to be unhappy and worry, no matter how we are afflicted, for if it was God's will to have us so, we should be satisfied. I came to Bayard, Iowa, in Feb. My brother brought me when on his way to Montians. This is the first time I have ever been away from home all by myself, and it seems quite strange to me. The invalid sisters all have my deepest sympathy. and I wish I could do something for each one. Many thanks to those who sent me flowers, etc. My old address was Spring Hill. III. My new one is

"Will you let me in, for I have come all the way in my wheel-chair? I have been an invalid all my life; have never walked a step, or been to school a day."

"Will you let me in, for I have come all the way in my wheel-chair? I have been an invalid all my life; have never walked a step, or been to school a day. I have a wheel-chair, and am thankful that I can roll around the house all day and attend to my little work and flowers. Of source I get lonely sometimes, and

The man who desires more is ever poor .- Claudian In love, one who ceases to be rich begins to be poor. Chamford.

Whether true or false, subline or ridiculous, man must have a religion.—M. Theirs.

As the yellow gold is tried in the fire, so the faith of friendship can only be known in the season of adversity.—Ovid.

sity.—Ovid.

Refinement may point the spire, but it is the plain principles of virtue which alone form the basis of the social fabric.—Robert Hall.

Devotedness is all that is the grandest and most subline in human life; it is, so to speak, the divine side of our humanity.—P. Felix.

The High Speed knitting machine made by J. E. Gearhart, Clearfield, Pa., will fill a want long felt. It is simple in mechanism, durable in construction, easy of operation, cheap in price and a necessity in every household. We have one of the machines in use and find it does excellent work in every line of knitting for family wear. See advertisement in another column and send for circulars.

—Hort. Ed. Grange Bulletin.

BICYCLES All makes. Easy Payments. ROUSE HAZARD & CO., 161 G. St. Peoria, III

SHORT-HAND Send for Catalog of Books and helps for self-instruction by BENN PITMAN and JEROME B. HOWARD, to THE PHONOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

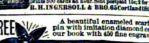
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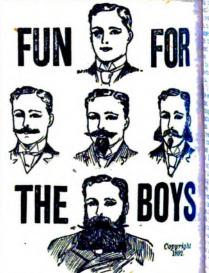




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AGENTS WANTED boys and mere curiosity, as
Planat Rook Co., Box 7004, St Louis or Philadel







All the above faces are those of one and the same person, and the wonderful changes are made entirely by our filse mustaches, beards, goates and whiskers. The same person, and the wonderful changes are made entirely by the filse of the same person. The same person was a same person which shows. Char frivate Theatricals, Amsteur histories, they are significant to the same person that even the same person was a same person of the same person which was a same person to the same person the sa

YOU ARE RUPTURED We Can Cure You no cure, No PAY, When cured it costs you nothing. Send 2c stamp. HAYDEIN ON WINCHAM, Me

For 30 Days. Wishing to introduce our Crayon Portraits and at the same time extend our business and make new customers, we have decided to make this Special offer Send as a Cabinet Picture, Photograph, Tintype, Ambrotype or Dagurecype of yourself or any member of your family, living or dead and we will make you a CRAYON, FORWARD of the contract of

Please mention Comport when you write,



Wanted! Typewriter and Stenographer.

Bright, intelligent, well-educated with a strictly to business. Must burnish highest references and be hopelessly and incurably siringle Pleasant, permanent position and good salary.

Address... Box 711, City Post Office.

It struck people as a little singular, this advertisement, but that was just the way it appeared in the paper. It was easy to see that the person who inserted it was a man with a grievance, and, in truth, Laurence Revere had passed through some trying experiences with this particular portion of his office force.

this particular portion of his office force.

He was a talented young architect and already had a large business, although only a few years but of college. When he opened his office a courple of years before the date of this to-be-memorable advertisement he was fortunate in finding an extremely capable typewriter, ladylike, unobtrusive, reliable, and he congratulated himself. But in less than a year his "treasure of a typewriter" informed him one morning, with a rosy hesitancy, that she would like him to supply her place as she expected—to get married! Then the trouble began. The next was indolent, the following one flirtatious. It was quite too evident that she contemplated marrying him whether he would or not. The third made heart-rending errors in spelling. He was just beginning to despair when fortune sent him an assistant as efficient as the first. Once more peace reigned. She was clever, cultivated, exquisitely neat and, although cheery and pleasant in manner, was evidently absorbed in her business and had no thought of him except as a courteous and not too exacting employer.

Everything was running so smoothly that

To his previous ad-

nserted in the daily sapers.
To his previous adertisements responses had been numer.
St. To this the replies were indeed meagre, but he selected one that pleased him and appointed an interview at ten o'clock the next norning.
Punctual to the minute, there arrived a young soman, tall, slender, graceful, with serious tray eyes, sweet but firm mouth and a mass of lost brown hair smoothly coiled on a finely ormed head. Mr. Revere liked her appearance. Even her dress bore an individuality in its simple yet modish fashion and its quiet my tint. Revere did not go into details exerting as regarded her references, which proved to be eminently satisfactory, and she was immediately engaged.

As the days slipped by, the slender, graceful squre, the perfect foot that peeped from beleath the trim skirt, the rick masses of brown is rorowning the sweet, strong face, grew to be pleasantly familiar. Busy over his plans and specifications, he yet found time to steal nany a quiet glance at his typewriter as she went over her work. Sometimes he would hink that she must be tired of the stooping position and would call her away in pretense of sishing a "woman's point of view" on the plans. Men, too, her shrewd suggestions pleased him and were promptly incorporated into his plans. Decasionally he would allow himself to stray from business topics and then he found that the possessed cultivated tastes, could talk well of music, pictures and plays. He felt that he would like to take her to some of the more expensive entertainments, beyond her slender pures, but that would not use" for anything that he fancted she might enjoy. He told himself that this was only a fair return for her assistance. Never had so many of his plans been socopted and he himself felt that his work had never been so good or the homes that he designed so filled with cosy nooks and little conveniences for home-keepers.

Then, too, she was so thoroughly womanly one day there was opened hastily by the cle-

Then, too, she was so thoroughly womanly!
One day there was a commotion in the corridor and the door was opened hastily by the elevator boy. "Here's a boy whats fainted or sumthin, sir." he said. Instantly Miss Mason was on her feet and as Mr. Revere said "Bring him in here" and the helpless little messenger who had succumbed to the united influence of heat and hunger—for it was an intensely hot summer day—was brought in she sat down on the floor and told them to lay his head on her lap and get some water. Mr. Revere glanced at the unkempt little head and dirty face of the boy and almost began a word of protest, but the repeated her directions so imperiously that the was obeyed.

"Now give me that glass of water and then run down to the druggist's at the corner at I set some brandy quickly as possible. Whip they were getting the brandy, the typewriter baked the soiled face with her own handker-chief dipped in the water. Revere watched her movements, so tender and gentle, with something like fascination and felt an absurd sensa-

tion that seemed almost like jealousy as the white fingers moved so caressingly over the unconscious child's face. The boy opened' his eyes in a few moments and when the stimulant came was able to drink a spoonful. Miss Mason asked him some questions when he could speak, the first being "What did you have for breakfast?" "Half a roll, Miss," was his reply, faintly given. "I knew it," she said, "I could see that that was half the trouble. Mr. Revere, will you send out for some milk and sandwiches? No, little fellow," as the child made a movement as if to arise, "stay just where you are till you are better." And when he had eaten the breakfast for which Revere had obediently sent to the nearest restaurant, she wrote his address in her little note-book and promised to go and see the sick mother of whom he had told her. Then she went quietly back to her desk and without further reference to the episode, resumed her work. Her quickness of thought and action in the emergency, her perfect felf-possession, and above all, her ready sympathy, made a deep impression upon Revere.

He gradually became aware of a strange inclination of pencil and mind to wander. One day, to his mingled amusement and vexation he discovered that he had idly drawn on the plazza of a particularly beautiful house, a figure, tall. slender, graceful, startlingly like his typewriter! "Here, my boy. This can't go on. It must be settled—one way or the other!" he said to himself. Then he stepped up to his drawing-board and soon an airy network of lines appeared and gradually took shape. Never had he worked with such magical swiftness. Never had a design so quaint and beautiful sprung from his brain.

When it was completed he dictated this letter to his typewriter: "Here, my boy. This can't go on. It must be settled—one way or the other!" The supplies of the suppli

LAWRENCE REVERE.

There was a sudden pause as he dictated the last clause; then with white lips the girl bravely completed it and without looking up from her work reminded him that he had forgotten to give "the name and address." Thereupon Revere suddenly reached for his hat and hastily said, "You will find everything in an addressed envelope on my desk. Just see that it is delivered at once, please. Good night!" and the next moment the office door closed after his retreating figure. The girl rose slowly and went to the architect s



Dear Sir:—
Your letter of yesterday was as great a surprise as to your sentiments and feelings as the accompanying plans and specifications were a delightful evidence of your skill and genius.
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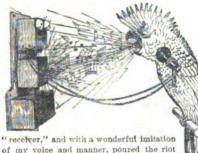




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BROUGHT back with me from Australia, among other things, a most beautiful and accomplished parrot. He talked fluently in several languages, including Maori, alongside of which Choctaw sounds like the liquid murmurings of the mountain brook. This parrot was reared in the bosom of a Christian family on one of the great sheepstations, and his morals were A No. 1. At three World's Fairs he had captured the gold medal for his beauty, conversational powers, and rare intelligence. He is not only a good talker, but given to imitating the actions of man, as well as words, and I prize him-highly. During the four weeks' seavoyage on the Pacific he became the pet of the passengers, and proved himself so good a sailor that we christened him "Neptune." After the trip across the Continent, however, his spirits began to droop, his appetite declined, and he met all my friendly advances by turning away, and sadly exclaiming, "I want to go home. Give me a rest!"

When I reached Boston I showed the parrot to a friend of mine, an old sea-captain, who has been around the world, and knows pretty much every thing worth knowing, from human nature to parrot peculiarities. He advised me to give the bird the benefit of the tropical sea air, and offered to take him on a cruise to Havana. So I sent Neptune on board the schooner "Newport," and put my trust in Provi-dence. One afternoon last week I was delighted to see a grinning old salt come waddling into my office with the parrot; and when my favorite in feathers greeted me with "Hello, old man! let's take a drink," I knew that polly was himself again. I took him out of his cage, gave him the freedom of the office, and every thing went swimmingly until one morning last week. At the time I was having a very excited war of words over the telephone with a Boston printer who had disappointed me, when a visitor called me away from the instrument. Hardly had my back been turned when Neptune seized the



of my voice and manner, poured the riot act into the instrument in a manner that gave us the earache. Sailors' slang, cuss-words, and the most shocking profanity went sizzling over the wire, and fairly raised blue smoke. "Toot yer fog horn, you bloomin' landlubber! Reef your mainsail, and

tack to starboard, you bow-legged snoozer! Luff, you old sea-dog, luff!" screeched Neptune, fairly beside himself, together with many worse remarks unfit for the Christian family circle.

As soon as I recovered from my amazement hustled him into his cage, and a moment later the old sea-captain came in to pay his respects. When I re lated my astonishing experience, and asked him to explain the change that had come over my pet, he was inclined to treat the whole matter as a joke, and tried to laugh it off. But upon being pressed, he said that though he had been around the world twenty-seven times, he had never been through such a time as the last voyage. Dense fogs, collision with a fishing-smack, forecastle all smashed in, becalmed, West India hurricane, every thing ripped flat, tore up the decks, spilled some of the cargo, ship sprang a leak, galley stovepipe carried away, nothing could be cooked, and to crown all, mutiny by a lot of drunken sailors, - these were a few of the details. During some of the time he had lashed Neptune up During some of the time he had lashed Neptune up in the rigging to prevent his drowning, he said, and the parrot had evidently got the idea of "hollering" into the telephone by seeing him shouting orders to the crew through his speaking-trumpet. As for the awful language, the sailors had ladled that out in junks and heaps, night and day; and being an intelligent parrot. Neptune naturally took it all in. The captain tried to console me with the remark that the whole business only proved that the parrot was mighty clever, and though now unfit for publication, would make a first-class gang-boss or tax-collector. While I was still talking with the old salt, in rushed the manager of the telephone station, very hot in the collar. He said his chief operator had tust come to him in an hysterical paroxysm, thrown

up her position, and said she wouldn't stay another minute in a place where a perfect lady would be sworn at, and, among other vile names, called a "bow-legged son of a sea-cook." He had therefore come to take out the telephone, and to say that such proceedings were contrary to rules, and in violation of the laws and dignity of the Commonwealth. I tried my best to explain matters satisfactorily, but made no headway until I trotted out Neptune, and begged him to speak for himself. The manner in which he unbuttoned his lip was a caution, and the telephone was permitted to remain upon our promising that the parrot should be given less rove in future.

It is truly an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and all this trouble suggested an idea to me. There lives in Boston an acquaintance of mine who always owes me money, and who is the second meaners man in Massachusetts. He has plenty of cash, but seems to delight in letting a bill drag along unpaid. He would rather be dunned than see a game of baseball or recline in a Comfort hammock. So I thought I would try a new wrinkle. I called a messengerboy. "Here," said I, "just take this bill up to, Gilfillan's, together with the parrot. Place the cage



in the middle of the odier, hand in the bill, say 'Sic 'em, Neptune,' and wait for an answer." The boy was back in half an hour with the amount in full, including interest, and a broad grin. When questioned as to what had happened, he said the man had stood it pretty well until the plaster came down, and the varnish peeled off, and his type-writer girl rushed out with her hands over her ears. Then he came down with the cash.

Any man with half an eye to business can see that I have got hold of a fortune in feathers. I have disposed of my invention, which is protected by patent, copyright, and trade-mark, to The Kinsabby Coin Collecting Concern, whom I recommend to public confidence, and whose prospectus, with full particulars, will soon be issued. The company already has in training, at their Cyclone Cellar or Profanity Proof Parlor in Boston, a collection of pay-promoting parrots almost as accomplished as Neptune himself.



the little babelet had turned on its side and railen saleep.

Hurrying homeward, she put the child to bed, where it continued its nap until shortly after the return of its mamma, when suddenly a series of agonizing shrieks announced its awakening. In a moment the fond parent was at its side, but was horrified to find the child, which naturally had a pale, aristocratic appearance, as red as a boiled lobster, and that it met all her motherly advances with kicks and yells, and carried on at such a rate that several neighbors were attracted to the scene of the uproar. The mother feit sure the child had taken the measles and become delirious. Amid bitter tears she reproached herself for the day's outing she had taken. The lady next door, who is the happy



of summer rash, and that there was no use worrying. But as Mrs. Bradley had ten less children to experiment on, and being a very nervous woman besides, she only grew more alarmed, and sent a messenger to the family physician to come at once, as her baby was dying. After feeling the child's pulse and heartbeats, and asking al. sorts of questions, the doctor left three or four prescriptions, and said that while there was no occasion for immediate alarm, the child was unmistakably suffering from scarlet-fever, and that it must be at once put into a dark room, carefully nursed, and kept very quiet. With these instructions he eft, prom sing to come the next morning.

This news, together with the fact that the child still thrashed and bawled as if possessed, frightened the poor woman beyond expression; and recollecting that her darling had not yet been christened, she held a hasty consultation with her husband, and sent for the minister, while they set to work to settle upon a name. "Daisy" was finally selected, to which the wife insisted upon affixing her mother's name, Lucretia, upon which the husband promptly nailed on his grandmother's, Angelina; and the minister, arriving at eleven-thirty p.M., accordingly vaccinated the child with "Lucretia Daisy Angelina Bradley." At carly dawn the child was better, so far as they were able to tell in the uncertain light, but it seemed entirely unable to recognize its parents. At the breakfast-table the husband, in glancing over the morning paper to see what sort of weather was predicted, ran upon the following advertisement:—

BARY STOLEN. Twenty delars reward will be paid for information that will-est of the arrest and conviction of the party goods store a fine, healthy boy baby, eight weeks old (answering to the name of Paty Mulcahy, and belonging to the undersigned), leaving in place thereof a paie, sickly girl Infant,—age and parents unknown,—which the owners may have by applying to the Little Shiers of the Poer. Any one harboring or certainty when horrible doubt flashed

With the reading aloud of this by Mr. Bradley a horrible doubt flashed through their minds, which norrible doubt flashed through their minds, which was changed into a still more horrible certainty when the nurse, upon being hastily summoned, tearfully admitted that she had been to Kneely's the previous day. Instantly there was a rush for the nursery. day. Instantly for the nursery, thing that prewhere the only ventedMrs.Bradley was the recollec-

for the nursery, thing that prefrom fainting tion that her aristocratic offspring had been published to the world as "pale and siekly," and turned over to a charitable institution. She couldn't even cry, she was so mad.

No time was lost in affecting an exchange of babies; and notwith standing the fierceness of their advertisement.



name all her kids without outside help, if she had

fifty."
This sad turn of affairs threw the case into the This sad turn of affairs threw the case into the courts, and the leading baby-lawyers of the Nutmeg State are racking their brains to bring about an adjustment. Inasmuch as no law can be found that bears upon the complication, it seems clear that-tin-less the Mulcahys petition the Connecticut Eegislature for a special act of authorization, little Patsy will soon get round-shouldered lugging about the high-toned name of "Lucretia Daisy Angelina,"

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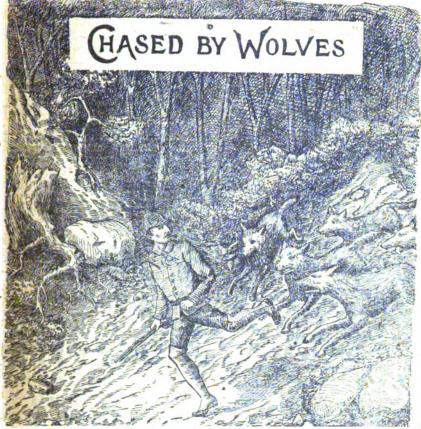
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one of which I will endeavor to describe here.

One bright cold morning in midwinter I set out to look at a number of traps I had set for wolves some time before.

I had visited all of them except one and on arriving at the place where I had set this one I found it to be missing.

There was no snow on the ground, and after a careful search I found a track or trail leading away from the place, and it proved to be the track of a bear.

I did not relish the idea of permitting bruin to take possession of my trap without making some effort to prevent it, for a wolf trap is not bought for a sorty, so finding I had a goodly supply of powder and bullets I at once determined to follow the bear upon whose leg I supposed my trap to be hanging.

All day long I kept steadily on, wishing if possible to overtake my game before the day should give way to the night, but in this I was doomed to disappointment for night found me seemingly no nearer success than I was at the starting.

Night came on and with it the sounds of many

Night came on and with it the sounds of many wild beasts of the forest, among which was the bark of the hungry wolves, and I assure you they seemed unwholesomely near. In my haste in the morning I had neglected to provide myself with matches so I was obliged to content myself with a lunch of cold dried venison, and then set myself about hunting for some shelter for the night which was growing blacker and colder every minute.

I could discern the bark of one wolf more daring than the rest very near to where I stood

AB

I could discern the bark of one wolf more daring than the rest very near to where I stood and then came an answering bark from many throats farther back in the brush. It dawned upon me that I was to have trouble with the wild dogs of the wilderness on account of havild no means of lighting a fire, so I would be obliged to find shelter in some tree or find some other place of safety without delay for the varmints were coming nearer each minute and I must act without delay. Even now I seem to hear the rush of many feet through the thick undergrowth.

undergrowth.

I looked about me for some friendly tree in which to take refuge, but to my djsmay I could not discern anything larger than a sage brush, and my condition was becoming alarming in the extreme.

The wolves had gathered in a body and were now coming towards me. I started on a brisk

The wolves had gathered in a body and were now coming towards me, I started, on a brisk run to the northward, for in this direction I was in hopes to find timber, but I was mistaken as you will soon see. I pushed rapidly forward through the scraping sage-brush heedless of the many scratches I received from the unfriendly prickly-head bushes with which I came in contact owing to the darkness.

I could now see a short distance in advance an opening which proved to be a large tract of clear prairie, this gave me renewed courage, and reaching the open ground I was able to make much better time, but this advantage was also in the favor of the wolves.



A huge wolf springs at my throat!

I was a hardy son of the West but this long race was beginning to tell on me, for no man can outstrip the gaunt dogs unless well mounted. They were now within a gunshot and taking quick aim I fired, with what success I have never been able to tell; however the wolves came swiftly onward.

I have had considerable experience in hunting but had not then acquired the feat of reloading on the run, and being too hard pressed to stop I ran on as fast as possible, but I was fast becoming weak from the effects of such a long and forced race; my breath came in short gasps, and I realized that unless something happened in my favor very soon, I would in the course of a few minutes fall a victim to the orcoming wolves.

coming wolves.

The relentless beasts now made a rush and

T was while on an extensive trapping expedition near the head waters of the Little Snake River, that I had some harassing adventures, one of which I will endeavor to describe here.

One bright cold morning in midwinter I tout to look at a number of traps I had set wolves some time before.

I had visited all of them except one and on riving at the place where I had set this one I und it to be missing.

There was no snow on the ground, and after a reful search I found a track or trail leading asy from the place, and it proved to be the lack of a bear.

I did not relish the idea of permitting bruin take possession of my trap without making me effort to prevent it, for a wolf trap is not ught for a song, so finding I had a goodly pply of powder and bullets I at once deter.

Flowers and Their Mission.

It will doubtless surprise many of Comfort's readers to know that there are thousands of men and women and little boys and girls who have never seen a green field or know anything at all about the beautiful quiet woods, with their tall stately trees and their mossy banks. Yet such is the case, and some of them who read Comfort often sigh for the pleasure which is denied them, and which they never hope to realize.

them who read Combour often sigh for the pleasure which is denied them, and which they never hope to realize.

In all great cities there is a certain part given up to the homes of the poor, and miserable wretched homes they are. Sometimes as many as sixty families: live in one tenement, and oftentimes a family of nine or ten people will be confined in one small room, where all the cooking, eating, sleeping and working is performed. For in these wretched tenements the smallest member of the family is obliged to be a contributor to the family revenue, and many a poor little life is crushed out before it has had a chance to get fairly started. Every little while in New York, Chicago, and London there comes mutterings of an uproar, and the rich people are threatened with mob violence. It is all very well to blame people for having socialistic tendencies, but the spectacle of one man having more money than he can possibly know what to do with, while another struggles hopelessly along losing ground at every step, is not apt to breed a feeling of brotherly love on both sides.

It certainly seems as if there were an inequality of fate somewhere. Yet all men are born equal. Some rise to great heights even from just such surroundings and attain great wealth and fame. But the majority fail, and drag out a miserable existence that is no better in the end than in the beginning. Perhaps our laws are wrong, perhaps we make no allowance for the fact that all men are not born equal, the Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding. Some men are born with great physical strengthand health Some are weak and puny. And so with the mental faculties. One man is embused with a goaheadativeness and instinctive impulse to push hings, while the other is satisfied to let things go along as they are. The one man gets along while the other stays where he is. People call the one a hustler and say he deserves success, and say the other is "an old stuff" and lacks ambition. My idea is that the two men were born with different natures, and whil

his neighbor the Hustler? You don't expect a man weighing 120 lbs. to knock out a Sullivan, but you expect every man to have the same brain power as the next.

It is among these poor people who are crowded to the wall that the philanthropist turns in his hour of well doing. Many ladies in the great cities have found that one of the most powerful agencies for good have been the simple flowers that adorn our gardens and fields everywhere. They obtain a marvellous hold over the affections of the poor, and the influence of a bit of bright color in a sick room has done much to restore the wan cheek to its accustomed fulness, and has brightened the few remaining hours of many a poor soul that never knew what kindness meant till just before the end. You must recollect that these flowers go where they have never been seen before, and those who have seen them know them only as belonging to the rich. It is therefore a great work that the Flower Mission performs, and its good cannot be calculated in mere dollars and cents. The woman who has brought sunshine and sympathy into the heart of a poor sufferer has done something that cannot be repaid to her in this world, but which is surely laying up treasures in Heaven.

Flowers are a comfort to everybody. Not only to the sick poor in great cities, but to the belle of the ball who has a hindred suitors at her feet. On the table at a great banquet, flowers deck the board with greater resiliance than gold or silver, and the small bunch of flowers in the corsage of the factory girl betoken a love for the beautiful, and a refinement that is inherent.

Flowers sometimes have a peculiar significance. Primrose Day in England denoted the birthday of the Earl of Beaconfield, one of the greatest Prime Ministers England ever had, and whose favorite flower was a Primrose.

Years ago there was a war called the "War of Roses" between the houses of York on one side and of Lancaster on the other. At the beginning of the dispute one of the contestants seizing a white rose declared his cause to

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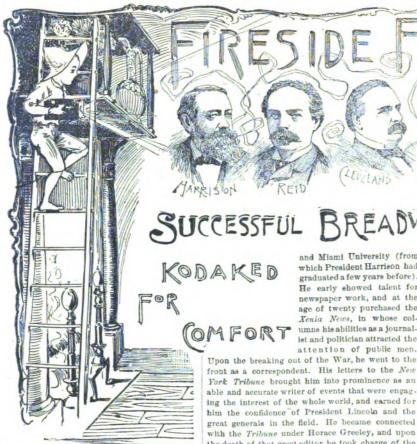
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BREADWINNERS



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O become the Presi dent of the United States, a man must have been a successful bread-winner. Almost without exception, absolutely so in recent times, the men who have gained the highest public reward that can come to a human being -the Presidency of the greatest

republic on the globe - have been se who have sprung from what Abraham Lincoln so aptly called the "plain people." This fact alone justifies the principle that lies at the foundation of our institutions, that the government of the

United States is "of the people, for the people, and by the people." The people of this great country are its rulers, and its servants are chosen by the people from their own ranks.

Benjamin Harrison, who has been re-nominated for the Presidency by the Republican party, was born at North Bend, O., August 20, 1833. His father was in moderate circumstances, and able to give his son only those advantages possessed by the average country Young Harrison's early education was obtained at a log schoolhouse near his home. He entered Miami University, and soon developed those He qualities of mind which have since become so prominent in his successful legal, military, and political career. After graduating from college he studied law, and emigrated to Indianapolis, Ind., where he began the practice of his profession in 1854. He soon took high rank among the lawyers of the State, and was widely known for his legal ability and high sense of justice. At the breaking out of the War he recruited a regiment, and served until mustered out of service in 1865. His military career was brilliantly successful, and he earned constant promotion, coming out of the War with the title of brigadiergeneral, which was bestowed upon him for distin-guished services. After the War he continued the practice of his profession, and became one of the leaders of the bar of his State. General Harrison early entered political life, and was the candidate of the Republican party for Governor of Indiana in 1876, being defeated by "Blue Jeans" Williams. In 1881 he was elected to the Senate of the United States, and served until 1887. In 1888 he became the Republican nominee for the Presidency, and was elected over Mr. Cleveland, after one of the most exciting campaigns in the history of the country. His administration has been marked by that ability, integrity, and patriotism which characterize the man. General Harrison comes of good stock. His greatgrandfather was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and his grandfather, William Henry Harrison, was elected President of the United States in the famous "Tippecanoe" campaign of 1840. He is distinguished as a soldier, a lawyer, and statesman. President Harrison was married in early life to Car line Scott, and has a son and daughter, both married.

N the selection of Whitelaw Reid as its candidate for .Vice-Presidentof the United States, the Republican party has departed from its usual course, and has named a man who has only until recently been

identified with the public service. But while Mr. Reid has not figured in official life, he has long been prominent in the politics of his country as the editor of a great newspaper, through whose col-

amps he has exerted a wide influence, and left his impress upon the fortunes of his party; and his love of country and efforts in behalf of clean politics are already known to the readers of Comfort.

Mr. Reld was born in Xenia, O., October 27, 1837. His education was obtained to the common schools

and Miami University (from which President Harrison had graduated a few years before) He early showed talent for newspaper work, and at the age of twenty purchased the Xenia News, in whose columns his abilities as a journalist and politician attracted the attention of public men

front as a correspondent. His letters to the New York Tribune brought him into prominence as an able and accurate writer of events that were engaging the interest of the whole world, and earned for him the confidence of President Lincoln and the great generals in the field. He became connected with the Tribune under Horace Greeley, and upon the death of that great editor he took charge of the journal which Mr. Greeley had founded and built up into a great political power. Mr. Reid's wide knowledge of men and affairs, and his strong influence in the councils of his party, which he had served for many years, led to his selection by President Harrison as Minister to France. He represented the United States in the sister republic with great credit, and returned to meet the approbation of his countrymen for his distinguished services, the most important of which was, perhaps, the removed of the barrier against American pork in Trance. Mr. Reid married, in 1881, the daughter of Mr. D. O. Mills of California, and has a charming family. He resides at White Plains, N.Y., on a large farm, enjoying the delights of rural life.

> Y nominating Grover Cleveland, the Democratic party has put the tariff question in the forefront of the issues to be discussed in the presidential campaign. Ex-President Cleveland stands before the country as the representative of the tariffreform movement. The Democratic party has long been the

onent of a low tariff, with incidental protection; but the growing sentiment within its ranks in favor of a tariff for revenue only, found its radical expression in Mr. Cleveland's famous message to Congress in 1887. Mr. Cleveland was born in New Jersey, March 18, 1837. He is the son of a minister, who died while his children were yet young, leaving them dependent upon themselves for support. Young Cleveland's education was obtained in the common schools. His ambition was to be a lawyer, and he secured a place in the office of an attorney at Buffalo, N.Y. His election as district attorney brought him into public notice, and he was thereafter elected Sheriff of the County of Erie. He was elected Mayor of Buffalo by the votes of men of all parties who desired a reformation of the city government, and in 1883 was chosen Governor of New York by an overwhelming majority. In 1884 he was nominated for the Presidency by the Democrats, and elected after the most malignant and exciting campaign of recent times. Being re-nominated in 1888, he was defeated by Mr. Harrison, since which time he has practised law in New York City. As the first Democratic President since 1860, Mr. Cleveland labored under great difficulties in satisfying the desires of many of the leaders of his party; but his administration was on the whole a successful one, and made him worthy of a high place in the long line of men who have occupied that distinguished office. One of the most interesting events in Mr. Cleveland's administration, and the most important of his life, was his marriage to Frances Folsom, whose career as mistress of the White House added a grace and charm to the social side of Washington

HILE less is known by the general public about Adlai E. on, the Democratic can didate for Vice-President, he has had, nevertheless, a long and creditable career in political life. He was born in Christian County, Ky., in 1835, of Scotch-Irish descent. When sixteen years old he moved with his parents to Bloomington, Ill. and studied law. He was admitted to the bar in 1858, and has since practised his profession. In 1864 he was

presidential elector on the McClellan ticket. In 1874 he was elected to Congress from the Bloomington district, and again elected in 1878. In 1885 he was appointed by Mr. Cleveland Assistant Postmaster-General, which office he held for several years. Mr. Stevenson was the chairman of the Illinois dele-

gation in the convention which nominated him for the Vice-Presidency, and was among Mr. Cleveland's most earnest supporters. He is a man of high character and ability, of domestic tastes, and has always been a stanch Democrat.

Cole Natingo.

The same measures, represented by the same candidates, that were passed upon by the people of the country in 1888, bid fair to be the leading issues in the coming campaign. Whether or not the people will decide that in the present prosperous condition of the country a change of administration is advis-able, remains to be seen. But whatever their decision, it is a comfort to know that the government is not one of political parties, but of the people, and that the affairs of the country will be patriotically administered.

13

N important office of the executive branch of the Government

is that of private secretary to the President. To fill this post successfully, a man must ombine exceptional ability, tact, and judgment with a thorough knowledge of men and affairs. In order to handle the vast volume of cor-

and affairs. In order to handle the vast volume of correspondence constantly pouring into the White
liouve, he has several assistants, all of whom are
expert shorthand writers.

As a means of bread-winning, and facilitating
business, shorthand has risen to such importance
that the following from the pen of the expert stenographer, C. H. Hastings, whose "Short-hand Self
lastructor" is everywhere recognized as a standard
work, will be read with interest. Mr. Hastings, who
is one of the publishers of the Lynn (Mass.) Rem,
has elimbed the ladder of success by practising what
he preaches, and his suggestions may prove profitable
to many Comfort readers. This is what he says:

Shorthand is a short cut to the quickest results in writing. At the present time it is as necessary for the busy business
must be have a stonographer, or shorthand-witer, as it is to have
a book-keeper. In some lurge commercial houses, where a
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be seen one at the clow of every braid of a department baving
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go through his letters, detate the replie so his stenographer,
and go about other business during the time that was formerly
taken up in personsity writing out his letters. The merchant,
lawyer, minister, railroad megnate, editor,—in fact, all business
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to any precessor to make use of forty different slegus. These are
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looghand. The sound of B in the word "Beston," and so on. There
is no mystery about shorthand, as some folks believe.

What is necessary to learn the art and become a successful
shorthand writer?

The same requireme

one of the standard systems. Get on the right road to commence with.

Shorthand affords women as well as men a splendid opportunity to carn money. The business weman has come to stay, and in shorthand is occupying her share of the field. While it may be classed as a specialty, it will be found to go hand in hand with other office work, and where one can do different kinds of work, the salary will be correspondingly greater.

After learning the rudiments of shorthand, read all you can newspapers, business circulars, pamphlets, etc. If you expect to work for a bank president, read all you can about banks and banking, and practise on the shorthand outlines for all the words and expressions that are not familiar. This applies as well if you intend to work for a milroad manager, lawyer, or in any other branch.

What is the pay for shorthand work? It vates from five dol-

any other branch. What is the pay for shorthand work? It varies from five dollars a week to five thousand dollars a year. An expert can easily make from one to two thousand a year. Here are a few sentences in shorthand, fullowed by the same sentences in type:—

2 ~ M. Les 6. P 1.4 「るやっしい」 いろいから

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THE GHOST OF WUN LUNG.

BY HAROLD KINSABBY.

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UST before midnight on the 9th day of December, in the year 1881, I saw a ghost.

Prior to that time I was not a believer in such things.

I state these facts clearly and unqualifiedly at the outset, in order that the reader may at once know that I appeal to his intelligence, not his credulity, and that he may promptly prepare him-

self for the contemplation of something actual and

real, not fanciful or imaginary.

I may add, with equal candor, that I am, generally speaking, a truthful man; absolutely so when I come to the discussion of ghosts.

If, therefore, I fail to bring the reader face to face with some of the astounding mysteries of the spiritworld, the fault will be his, not mine.

A feeling of mutual confidence between narrator and reader may, under ordinary circumstances, be of little consequence. In this particular instance every thing hinges upon that point, for I am the only American now living who came into actual personal contact with the ghost aforesaid.

The one man of sixty-two millions!

And I am the sole repository of my secret. Will I tell the secret?

Will it be believed?

I don't know.

Some men may be willing to impart strange facts; they may be able to furnish logical reasons for the existence of such facts. But they are still unable to furnish the public with an understanding.

I belong to that class. And I saw a ghost.

At the time of the startling experience I was visiting friends in San Francisco, whose home is charmingly situated near the summit of Nob Hill, that conspicuous eminence on California Street famous for its "Millionnaires' Palaces," and once the threatened scene of "sandlot" riots. Among many other rail-road magnates, bonanza kings, and silver queens, Ex-Governor Leland Stanford, the Crockers, and Mrs. Mark Hopkins then resided there.

On the particular evening in question I attended a theatre party in company with my host. At the conclusion of the performance we proceeded directly to his home, where, after spending an hour at whist, I retired to my apartments.

Here, in the enjoyment of a last cigar, I read two or three letters I found on my table, and also hastily glanced over several London papers that day received

from a friend abroad. After turning off the lights preparatory to going to bed, I stepped to a large bay-window to enjoy, as I had frequently done, the impressive panorama that lay below in the sombre silence.

There before me, just across the bay, whose fantastically scattered lights of red and green serve as guiding stars to the ancient mariner passing through the golden gate, lay Oakland, the beautiful city of rose-clad homes, filled with dreamers of perpetual sunshine. In the distance beyond, solitary sentinels of light stood guard over romantic hamlets and sunny homes that nestled among the foothills, here, , and yonder. In the more immediate surroundings, palatial residences at my left, each standing by itself and all dark within, loomed up with awe-inspiring grandeur through the dim shadows. To the right, within the very shadows of this spectacle so suggestive of Occidental millions, and but a few blocks in front of me, I looked down upon acres of dismal roofs that sheltered never-ending scenes of Oriental misery - Chinatown! - with its forty or fifty thousand souls; its underground opium joints and gambling hells; its temples of wealth and piety, and dens of vice and penury.

As I turned from contemplation of the strange contrast presented by the scene, the silence of which was broken only by the ceaseless buzz of the invisible cables in the street below, I was startled by the signal gongs of two cable cars which passed each other directly in front of the house. Almost unconsciously I returned to my position at the window, and paused to watch the one disappear over the summit, while the other as speedily descended the long, steep hill, so steep that it is never trod by horses' hoofs.

I had stood but a few moments, when, suddenly realizing the lateness of the hour, I turned abruptly to go to bed. In doing so, my eye once more so the hill-top just beyond, and - oh, horrors!

Was this the frightful vision of a dream?

From the tower, halfway down the hill, ca answer: -

Twelve o'clock.

I was awake.

With an icy shudder that chilled my breath and chained me to the spot, I looked upon the ghastly spectacle clearly outlined against the gloomy background by the light of the street lamp a block above.

I saw it moving. A human skeleton! - the skull, uplifted arm, and flowing shroud, all ghastly whitetoo real to be mistaken.

I saw it approaching! -gliding swiftly, noiselessly, through the air, above the middle of the street.

A gh-. But pshaw! what nonsense! I am not superstitious. Such things are not, can not, be neal. They are but the freaks of wildest fancy.

I tried to move. I could not. My eyes were riveted on the hideous sight.

I saw it coming, closer and closer. 'Twould pass below me, not a hundred feet away.

Determined that will and courage should conquer doubt and fear, I summoned all the strength that body and mind could give, and quickly moving closer to the window, so close that my face fairly touched the glass, I saw a ghost.

I am not easily frightened. I had often said that

myself. People may also have heard me say that I enjoyed being alone. Yet, as I stood there in the darkness, my eyes fixed upon the vanishing figure, I somehow felt that I should enjoy company, particularly the company of one who, like myself, was not easily to be frightened.

I was, in fact, so strangely impressed with my condition of solitude, that without delay I lit the gas. Then I stepped before the mirror. The deathly pale and deeply agitated look I there beheld bewildered me. I tried to calm myself, change the current of my thoughts, when, just as I was reaching for my revolver and glancing about the room to see if all the doors were provided with locks, I suddenly recalled an incident which served to relieve some what the tension of my feelings.

One night, in company with an old hunter, I sat watching for kangaroos on the Murray River, in New South Wales. The supply of other stimulating topics having become exhausted during several hours of patient waiting, the whispered conversation at last drifted to ghosts, relative to which my companion entertained, as I found, very decided if not somewhat novel views.

In the midst of a long silence, during which I was kept awake by the wild fantastic shadows that now and then appeared on the dismal river and neighboring lagoons, I found the subject abruptly introduced by an unexpected nudge, followed by the startling

"Ever see a ghost?"

"No," said I. "Did you?"

"Only last week I thought I saw one up in Queens land; but when I sprung my spook-test on the thing, I found that the ghost was all in my eye."

"Sprung what on him?" I said in great astonish ment.

"My spook-test," the man calmly replied.



"What's that?"

" Never hear of it?'

"I'll tell you. Suppose I think I see a ghost. Suppose I feel so dead sure of it that I begin to weaken. Do you understand?" "Yes, I understand; go on."

"Well, in that case I brace up and ask myself a very simple question."

After a brief pause I inquired: "What question do you ask?"

"Says I to myself: 'Dick Bennett, be you

"What then?" I continued after another pause. "Well, if I find I'm not a dreamin', and can say Yes' to that, I go on and ask myself another simple

question." He paused again.
"And what's that?"

"'Dick Bennett,' I says then, 'be you sober?" "Next?" I queried after some moments of supressed silence.

"If it so happens that I can truthfully say 'Yes to that, I just ask one more simple question.

"What do you ask now?"

"Well, then I up and save 'Dick Bennett, be you sane?' And by the time I get ready to say 'Yes' to that, I find that the ghost was all in my eye. Do you understand?"

"Certainly," I said, "I understand; and is that what you call" —

"I call that my spook-test," the man answered

dryly.
"Have you often tried it, Dick?" I asked.

"Lots of times. And it's a sure winner every trip."

Here the old hunter began entertaining me with quaint reminiscences of Australian bush life, when suddenly a band of kangaroos claimed our attention. Our companionship was, unfortunately, limited to one night; and I always number Dick Bennett's unfinished narrative among the bits of wisdom I have

Agreeable as the recollection of the foregoing incident was, just at that moment, the relief it brought to my troubled mind proved only momentary. For presently I found myself again overwhelmed with visions of the frightful object I had so plainly seen.

Try as I would to banish the matter from my mind a mere optical illusion, some fanciful shadow, a physical impossibility, the moment I began to calmly reason with myself, the result was always the same; and I was confronted with the awful fact that my eyes had not deceived me.

The more I analyzed my feelings, the more fearful the sensations that overcame me. I felt chagrined, afraid, ashamed, at the very idea of clinging to such a frightful belief.

Yet, with my own eyes as witnesses, my reason as counsel, my common sense as judge, and with my lifelong convictions to shame such a verdict, the conclusion was irresistible. I saw a ghost.

With this fact hopelessly before me, I concluded that all I could do was to seek forgetfulness in sleep. But could I go to sleep feeling the way I did? Without mentally debating the question, I decided I could not. So, lighting a fresh cigar, I began pacing the floor under the benign influence of this balm for man's burdens.

Presently, as if checked by some mysterious magnetism, I came to a halt. A horrible thought flashed through my mind. Had I, after all, been walking in my sleep? Were the hideous visions that haunted me but mere hallucinations of a somnambulist? Was I really awake? Good Heavens! I would see. I would try -

"The spook-test."

New courage came to me. I would ask myself the three simple questions, so simple in themselves, so sure in their result.

Without a moment's hesitation I began with num ber one.

Was I awake?

Confused, harassed, as my mind was, I felt positive on that point. I felt, in fact, extremely sorry that I was awake. Still, as I have already said, I belong to that class of men who, before accepting a wish to make sure of a logical reason for its existence. Upon reflection, I remembered reading about the means sometimes employed in determin-

ing whether a person apparently lifeless is actually dead. It was mentioned, as I recalled, that the test, which consisted in the application of a hot coal or drop of burning seal. ing-wax to the person's body, was absolutely infallible; and the thought suggested itself to me that this would, of course, prove equally conclusive in ascertaining whether a person was awake or asleep. I quickly applied the burning end of the cigar to my wrist, and - I was painfully awake. Without the slightest hesitancy I said "Yes" to the first question.

Was I sober?

I felt equally certain of that. To the best of my recollection I had not been drinking. I must, however, have a positive reason for my opinion. Though I could not speak from personal experience as to intoxication, I was able to reason from the

I knew that a man not standpoint of observation. sober would want to do one of three things, - sing, fight, or drink more. So I tried to hum a familiar air. The notes chilled in my throat. It was perfectly clear that I was not in a singing mood. Did I want to fight - perhaps the ghost? Never was I more opposed to such brutality than at that moment. Fearing I might change my mind, I locked the doors. Besides, the ghost I had seen was of such proportions—fully eight feet high—as to render him beneath my notice. Was I thirsting for liquor? Decidedly not. The very thought of disturbing my friends by prowling about the darkness at that hour of the night was distasteful to me. I said "Yes" to the second simple question.

And this brought me face to face with number three.

Of course I was. There was no insanity running in my family, and I hadn't killed any one to render me even temporarily insane. Still, my family hadn't seen what I saw that night; and I felt I must have some proof, some reason, to show that I had not suddenly become an imbecile.

I thought. I grew fretful. I sat down, and picked

up a paper, in the hope that in a few mo might be able to convince myself. I began reading. I failed to grasp a single idea. I turned to the next page. I could read, but could not understand. I examined the other pages with the same result. There was no point, no reason, in what I saw before me. Excitedly I threw down the paper; then, tak ing up another, I tried to read that. The astounding fact remained, I could read, but not understand. I flung the paper aside, and took a third. No use; every thing appeared worse than a Chinese puzzle. I jumped up dazed, frightened, trembling in a cold perspiration, when suddenly a ray of light shone through the darkness.

I was sane!

I had been reading " London Punch."

I had hardly gotten up, and had not yet realized the effect of the "test" on my mind, when the familiar signals of two passing cars again sounded in my ears.

With the air of a man upon whom it has just dawned that his sufferings have been "all in the eye," I stepped briskly to the window, and, smoking my cigar, I permitted my eyes calmly to follow the diverging cars. As the distance between them increased, I watched the one going down-hill until it had reached a point nearly two blocks distant, and then turned my attention solely to the summit over which the other had already disappeared.

During the sharp lookout I kept on the fatal spot, I became somewhat anxious; but this feeling speedily gave way when after some moments no signs of the unearthly sight appeared, and I was, as I have heard people say, "agreeably disappointed." Of course, I reasoned, the object I had seen ten or fifteen minutes

before might

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I therefore drew down the shade at the window to my left, and had already taken hold of the one directly before me, when my arm fell to my side as if paralyzed. With a loud whirr, the suddenly released shade rushed upwards; and there, not thirty yards in front and below me, I beheld the shocking spectre gliding swiftly uphill. I stood spell-bound by the grim monstrosity.

Inclining slightly forward as it soared past me, with parched arm upstretched to heaven, its bleached death's head all bare and rigid, the ghastly drapery enshrouding its skeleton form in a silent flutter, it presented to my view the most horribly revolting spectacle I ever beheld, and one I shall remember as long as memory lasts.

In the face of this further proof all doubt vanished. I now felt convinced, positively, absolutely certain, that I had seen what I here describe.

Such was my belief then.

Such are my convictions to-day.

Skeptics may sneer, men of science may smile at this statement. Stubborn facts will outlive them both. Even before the object had finally passed from my

view, I experienced one of those sudden revulsions of feeling by which fear becomes courage, and anxiety gives way to mental repose; and thus reconciled to my new belief and position, I went to bed.

My experience during the remainder of that night

was entirely free from adventure or excitement. The contemplation of mere pictures of fang or matters of uncertainty sometimes disturb my shu bers: the pondering over established facts, never.

The following morning I decided to say nothing of my experience to any one until I had related it to an intimate bachelor friend, whose companionship I had often enjoyed in the field and at the fireside (and in whose death a few years later I lost one of the most genial friends I ever possessed). I felt relieved, therefore, to find the conversation at the breakfast table confined to topics entirely foreign to the spirit world. Evidently no one but myself had been disturbed by the strange visions.

Ten o'clock found me at the office of my friend. I had expected, of course, to find him skeptical; and I knew I should find him full of good-humored pleasantry. I could therefore count with certainty upon unmerciful "guying."

And I got it.

"Nelson," I began, after exchanging a few commonplace remarks, "does your personal experience or observation enable you to throw any light upon the subject of ghosts, real or so-called?

"Not exactly," he replied, with a look of illy-disguised ridicule, "but my personal experience enables me to throw some little light upon a subject closely related to ghosts."

What's that?

"It's just this," he continued, as he walked slowly to a window facing the street: "I find that the chemical influence of our California climate upon some folks' bump of imagination is very apt to produce 'delirious triangles,' real or so-called.' "I am sorry you are so disagreeable," said I, "for

I came to tell you a secret."

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"If it's nothing startling, tell me some time next spring," he said, with the air of one who feels him-self bored. "I'm pretty busy this morning."

Well, it is startling," I continued, "though I'm afraid you won't believe it." "Let's hear it," impatiently.

"It's just this. Last night at twelve o'clock I saw a ghost going up and down Nob Hill. I saw it, just

"By the way," he broke in, "that reminds me something I wanted to say to you when you first

"What is it?"

"You won't feel flattered?"

" Not a bit." "Well, it's only this: you talk like a man who's

been drinking hard. Accustomed to his friendly slanders, I continued gravely: "Under these distressing circumstances, you would hardly be willing to gratify me by fighting a dual. ing a duel. I trust, however, that neither your personal feelings nor the proprieties of your profession will render it inconsistent for you to receive a cer-

"You want, I suppose, a writ of ejectment served tain proposition from me." on that ghost;" and, with a lofty business air, "You

"I'm afraid it might frighten you."

"Oh, don't mind a little thing like that. I've fought my way through wild cats, tackled grizzlies, and paralyzed ghosts, and I can say—and say it without changing the size of my head-covering— 'Fright, thou art a total stranger to me.'"

Seating myself at his desk without answering the boastful remark, I wrote : -

"If the human fiend who strangles wild kittens and insults gentlemen in his own office desires to experience that sensation which some men call fear, he shall be accommodated if he will visit me to night." He read it, said nothing, but, after writing a few words underneath, handed the sheet back to me, and

began unceremoniously reading a newspaper.

I ran my eye over what he had written, "The 'human fiend' will be on hand with his gun;" and then left him, and spent the rest of the day hoping that neither he nor the ghost would disappoint me.

The hour of ten that night found two young men seated in the dark recess of an upper bay window amid the exclusive shadows of Nob Hill. Both were there admittedly for precisely the same purpose. Both knew this and also knew each other. They were, in fact, there as friends. It may as well, however, be here recorded that the companion of Lucien Tod Nelson — friend, wag, guide, and philosopher — was then and there called upon to endure, amid humble anxiety, all the fiendish ridicule, sarcastic jeers, and ironical pleasantries that refined deviltry can suggest or friendly tongue alone dare utter.

Securely wedded to his narrow belief, that what some folks had not seen could not possibly have an existence, every sound, every fleeting shadow, suggested to the tormenter some fresh weapon for rendering the self-inflicted solicitude of his companion more painful.

But could this ordeal go on forever? Would the hour of midnight never come?

At last, pestered for the hundredth time with "Tell me when to shoot!" or, "Perhaps your friend, 'the ghost,' has experienced 'that sensation which some men call fear!" and scores of similar exclamations, I turned up the light for a moment to make sure of the time. I felt relieved to find that a few minutes more would bring to the door the cars that passed each other at twelve.

If my expectations were to be realized, the thrilling moment was near at hand!

The sudden appearance of the cars proved a signal for another outbreak on the part of the merry friend

"It doesn't necessarily follow," the words rose softly from behind a cloud of blue smoke, "that a man is essentially a liar because he tells ghost stories. I have always said that a sensible man can a master poet has said, a sort of 'magnetic mutuality mg of spirits.'''

I was in no mood to banter, and my thoughts were not of "poets." Yet, as my eyes longingly searched the steep incline for the unearthly object that fettered my mind, I felt there was but one line in the entire language capable of expressing my feelings: "If thou art lost to me, life's joy is gone."

630 Amid painful suspense I noted the progress of the downward car for one - two - three blocks. It had not yet passed the first crosswalk at the latter point, when, with an indescribable sensation of awe, overcome with joy, the sight of the ghost flashed before my eyes. Involuntarily I held my breath.

Emerging apparently from the earth, in the rear ania little to the left of the departing car, it rose, until its full length stood suspended in the air; then, after a slight wavering pause, it came gliding up-hill.

My experience of the previous night, coupled with the ordeal through which I had just passed, had steeled me against fear. And with a supreme effort to suppress my emotion, and without the slightest movement, I said coolly: -"Nelson, here's a friend of yours coming up

street; better step outside and speak to him."

I had not yet finished the sentence when his right hand fiercely clutched my shoulder, while with his left on his forehead he stood beside me staring wildly a' the approaching figure.
"A ghost, by dash!"

concluded in Comfort for October.)

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(OMMENTS or (OOKING.

EAR COUSINS:

I wish we could have some letters for this department giving hints about house-keeping, and not confine ourselves so closely to cooking alone. To be sure, the heading of the column announces that it contains "serious comments on COOKING"; but let not that hinder us from speaking of other branches of the art of home-making. The older housewives ought to be able to give many suggestions to those who are just starting out in a home of their own, in regard to ways of economizing their money, time, and strength, and let us not be backward about contributing such ideas pro bono publico. Also in writing off recipes, remember that all are not experienced cooks, and try to make that "handful," or "few minutes," or "flour enough to make a stiff batter," a little more definite. I am so often reminded of the old lady's cake recipe, "if eggs were cheap, she took three or four, but if they were 40c. a dozen, one would do"; and "if milk was plenty, put in two cups, but if you hadn't got it, use part water," and "flour was accordin' to how many eggs you put in," and "if the milk was a little sour, put in some saleratus, and if 'twas sweet, use cream tartar," etc, etc. Too many old cooks go on this principle in giving recipes, and the result is dire disaster to the amateur who rashly ventures to try them.

I have a letter which contains some very useful suggestions about removing stains, etc, and although some of them come rather late for this season, they will come in play next year, and may be, even now, just what some perpixed housewife is looking for, as the berry with us all the year round.

A BATCH OF HOWS.

How to remove ink, wine, or fruit stains:— EAR COUSINS

with us all the year round.

A BATCH OF HOWS.

How to remove ink, wine, or fruit stains:—Saturate well with tomato juice. It is also a good thing to remove stains from the hands.

How to take ink stains out of a red table etoh:—Soak the spot in sweet milk, or melted tallow. If that does not start it, hold over burning matches.

How to remove coffee stains:—Rub thick glycerine on the wrong side, and wash out with lukewarm water.

How to remove iron rust from linen:—Saturate the spot with a strong solution of lemon juice and salt, and hold over the nose of a teakettle filled with boiling water, when the spot with a strong solution of lemon juice and salt, and hold over the nose of a teakettle filled with boiling water, when the spot will almost instantly disappear.

How to remove freshly spilled ink from carpets:—First take up as much of the ink as possible with a teaspoon, then pour cold sweet milk on the spot and take up as before, repeating this until the milk is only slightly tinged with black. Wash with cold water, and absorb with a cloth without too much rubbing.

How to wash blue cotton goods without fading:—Put the goods before they are washed, into water prepared by adding one teacup of saturated solution of borax to a gallon of water. This need only be done once, before they are washed the first time.

How to remove grass stains:—While the stains are fresh, wash them out in alcohol.

How to set the color of blue cambric:—Dip it in a solution of saltpetre, using two or three cents worth to a pail of water.

How to prevent linen from fading:—Put a little borax in the water and let stand one hour.

How to prepare starch for colored clothes:—To every pint of starch add

How to prepare starch for colored clothes:— To every pint of starch add a small piece of

How to brighten the color of pink goods:— Put vinegar in the rinsing water.

I have some more of those good recipes from M. E. F. By a mistake of the type-setter, the last ones she sent were credited to some one else, for which I am very sorry; but mistakes will happen in printing offices, and are beyond my power to prevent.

my power to prevent.

CANNED PEACHES.

Peel enough peaches to fill 1 can, for each can allow 1 cup of granulated sugar and 1 cup of water, make a syrup of sugar and water, drop peaches in and boil until you can run a broom splint through peaches, fill the can with boiling hot fruit, fill up with syrup and screw on the top; be sure the can is air tight, when cold wrap in dark brown paper and keep in a cool, dark cellar or closet.

CANNED PEARS.

CANNED PEARS.
Follow recipe for peaches, only allow 1-2 cup sugar to 1 cup of water.

Follow recipe for peaches, only allow 1-2 cup sugar to 1 cup of water.

GRAPE JELLY.

Concord grapes just turning purple make the hest jelly, remove the stems, place grapes in preserving kettle, almost cover with water, stir often until they are breaking open, then pour in jelly bag and drain, but do not press the juice out, to every pint of juice allow 3-4 lb. of granulated sugar, heat sugar; boil juice 15 minutes, add the heated sugar, and boil until it will jelly, fill glasses, let it set uncovered 24 bours; take the grapes from the jelly bag, pressthe pulp through a colander, weigh the pulp, allow 3-4 lb. of sugar to 1 lb. of pulp and cook until thick like apple butter. Delicious for pies in the winter, or to eat as a sauce with bread and butter.

CANNED BLACKBERRIES.

Pick carefully over, place in porcelain lined preserving pan, stew 20 minutes, add to 2 quarts of berries 2 cupfuls sugar, fill can first wrapped in wet towel, fasten cover firmly. When cold place in a cool, dark place.

CANNED PLUMS.

Stew in a rich syrup of 2 cupfuls water to 1 of

CANNED PLUMS.

Stew in a rich syrup of 2 cupfuls water to 1 of sugar. It will take about 20 minutes to stew them, Follow directions for berries.

Peel and steam fruit until tender; boil peelings in water; drain, add to each can 1 cupful sugar, 1 cupful water. Stir quinces in this syrup one hour, fill cans, screw down the tops, cool, wrap in dark paper and keep in cool, dark place.

CANNED MUSKMELON.

Select ripe fruit, cut in small pieces, make a syrup of 1 cupful water and 1-2 cupful sugar for each can; stew melon in this 10 minutes follow directions for berries.

Stew to a pulp any kind of berries or currants; press through a colander, add to each quart fruit 1 cupful sugar, 1 teaspoonful each cloves, cinnamon, 1-2 teaspoonful pepper. Stew 20 minutes, add 1-2 pint vinegar to each quart of fruit and seal.

CHERRY JAM.

Wash cherries, put in a preserving kettle, cover with water, and boil until very soft, put through a colander or sieve to remove the seeds; return to the fire, sweeten to taste, and boil thick as any other jam.

1 peck yellow tomatoes cut in pieces, boil until soft, strain through a cloth; to every cup of juice take 2 cups sugar, set sugar in the oven to heat, put the juice on and let it boil 20 minutes, allow 1 lemon sliced to every cup of juice, (if you wish it very tart, take 3 lemons sliced to every cup of juice), then add heated sugar, boil 15 minutes longer, treat the same as other jellies; this jelly is very nice served with cold mutton.

M. E. F.

A new cousin has sent a fine variety of pickle

A new cousin has sent a fine variety of pickle

A new cousin has sent a fine variety of pickle recipes.

HOTCH FOTCH PICKLES.

1 large head cabbage, 2 dozen cucumbers, 1 dozen green tomatoes, 3 green peppers, chop all fine. Take 1-2 dozen white onions, slice, pour boiling water over them and let stand 15 minutes, then mix with the other ingredients, add 1-2 teacup salt, let stand 1 hour. Then drain off all the juice, and cover with weak vinegar for 24 hours. The next morning drain again, and to every gallon of pickle put 1-2 lb brown sugar, 1 oz. each of pepper, cloves, and white mustard seed; if you like celery, add 1-2 oz. celery seed. Put all in a kettle, cover with good vinegar, boil 1-2 hour. It is then ready to put away in jars.

1 peck green tomatoes, 1-4 peck small white onions, 1-4-peck string beans, 2 heads cabbage. Slice the tomatoes, and let stand over night in brine; squeeze out of the brine, and chop them fine with the rest of the ingredients. Add 4 tablespoons white mustard seed, 2 of cloves, 2 of celery seed, 2 of ground mustard, 1-2 oz. turmeric, 1-2 lb. brown sugar. Put all into a porcelain kettle, cover with vinegar, and boil slowly an hour.

TOMATO CHOW CHOW.

Slice 1 peck green tomatoes, 6 green peppers,

TOMATO CHOW CHOW.

Slice I peck green tomatoes, 6 green peppers, 4 onions, stir in a cup of salt and let stand over night. Then pour off the water, put in a kettle with vinegar enough to cover, add 1 cup grated horse radish, 1 tablespoon cloves, 1 tablespoon cinnamon, same of allspice, 1 cup sugar; cook until soft.

CHILI SAUCE. 20 ripe tomatoes, fair size, 1 large onion, 10 green peppers; chop all fine together. Add 2 teaspoons salt, 1 tablespoon each of ginger, all-spice, nutmeg and cloves, 1-2 cup brown sugar 1 qt. of vinegar, simmer 2 hours.

Take 1 pk. green tomatoes, slice, and soak in salt and water over night; then drain the water off and chop fine, 2 gallons cabbage chopped fine, 1 doz. onions ditto, 1 oz. white mustard seed, 1 oz. celery seed, 1 oz. cloves, 1 oz. allspice, all unground, 1 tablespoon ground black pepper, 8 tablespoons salt, 2 lbs. sugar, 1 gallon vinegar. Boil all together 1-2 hour, then add 1 oz. turmeric and stir all well together.

Take the roots of sarsaparilla, burdock, yellow dock, dandelion, spikenard, sweet cicely, sweet fern, sassafras, tops of princes pine, and a larger quantity of wintergreen, black birch, and spice wood. Wash, cut in small pieces, and put in a boiler with about twice as much water. Boil about 2 hours. Strain, sweeten a little, when lukewarm, put in a soaked yeast cake to the gallon. Put in a jug uncorked, and leave till worked, then cork.

ADDIE. ROOT BEER.

cake to the gallon. Put in a jug uncorked, and leave till worked, then cork.

TOMATO CATSUP

Wash and cut your tomatoes in quarters, boil until soft then strain through a seive or thin cloth getting as much of the pulp as possible (if one does not object to the seeds a colander will do), to every gallon of the pulp add 4 tablespoons of sait, 4 of black pepper, 1 tablespoon ground mustard, 1 tablespoon ground cloves, 1 tablespoon of mace, 1 cup of orinegar, boil 1 hour and a quarter to every gallon. Stir often, as it will settle to the bottom of the kettle and burn.

If you can your tomatoes in glass cans put them in a very dark place and then cover them with old olicloth or something that will keep the light from shining on them and see how much nicer they will keep.

COLD TOMATO CATSUP.

1 peck of tomatoes peeled and cut in pieces, 1-2 cup of mustard seed, 1-2 cup of salt, 1 cup of nasturtiums (if you have them if not use horseradish), 2 cups of sugar, 3 pints of vinegar, 4 hot peppers, 4 tablespoons of cinnamon, 2 tablespoons of ground cloves, 2 tablespoons of celery seed, 1 teacup of grated horseradish, drain the tomatoes over night then mix all together. I do not cut my tomatoes very small for it gets finer after it is made.

M. V. S.

Many thanks to all who have sent recipes.

Yours for good housekeeping.

Many thanks to all who have sent recipes. Yours for good housekeeping, COUSIN CERES, (Care of COMFORT.)

A MONEY MAKER.

A MONEY MAKER.

MR. EDITOR:—Tell Mrs. Moore she can get all the jewelry, tableware, etc., she can plate and can make \$25, per week. A plating outfit costs \$5. I bought mine from H. F. Delno & Co. of Columbus, Ohio. It plates gold, silver or nickel. I did \$4.70 worth of plating the first day. The work is done so nicely that every person seeing it wants work done. This machine is the greatest money maker I ever saw. Any one can get circulars from the above firm. It is so hard to get employment now that I know others would like to know how they can make a little money.

K. Jarrett.

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this department was started, I stated distinctly that all who wished requests inserted must send references from either their pastor, physician, or the postmaster in the town where they live, certifying as to the genuineness of their need of help. This may to some seem a harsh requirement, but no thoughful person will so regard it, when we think of the many frauds, and the various ways in which charitably disposed people are imposed upon by fictitious appeals for help. I want this column to be a sort of Bureau of Information for those who wish to do good: a place where they may find the names of those who really need their assistance in a variety of ways; and I do not wish to be responsible for their wasting their kindness on any frauds. So let me impress upon the dear invalid friends, that for the protection of yourself and others, you must send references. These will not be published, but it will be understood that when a request is printed, I have received what I consider to be satisfactory references from its author. Of course I am liable to be mistaken, like everybody in this world, but I shall use my best judgment, and hope that any errors in that may be pardoned. I received a letter the other day containing some good advice in this line, and will give a part of it.

IRY Pa

author. Or course I am induct to be introduced a letter the other day containing some good advice in this line, and will give a part of it.

"It wish to offer some advice to our cousins needing help. In asking for money or anything of money value, you will be more keep public have been swindled so often by rascals asking for charity, that many really charitable people are kept from giving through fear that their gitis may not reach persons needing help. The name of your mayor, post-master, or any official will help your cause. When you realize how profitable it would be for some scamp to make a pitiful call for help through our columns, if he should receive only one cent from each of the many thousand readers, you will see the wisdom of sending references with your call for help. No doubt I am advising people much older than myself I am 27 years of age, but have spent had know some of their methods of fleecing the public.

In future I shall not allow myself to publish a request which is not accompanied by references, and though I have not always adhered to this rule in the past. It is the only may for the protection of both the recipients and the bestowers of charity.

"May I tell the dear friends of a lesson which I had regarding prayer and faith in the Lord? I have a 5-year-old adopted boy called Richard. He has only been with me 5 months, but I give him Christian teaching. One day it happened that my daughter and I were very busy in my sewing-room, and my danghter's baby was saleep in the next room. The little one awoke, and I sent Richard to rock the cradle, thinking she would go to sleep again. He tried to hush her, but she only cried the louder; then Richard's voice was heard in prayer above the baby's a kneeling by the cradle with his little hands clasped, saying the Lord's prayer. When we asked him why he did that, he said, half crying, that he thought God could make her hush, for he could not. Dear friends, is it not beautiful, the faith of a little child?

"Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings Tho

'So nigh is greatness to our dust,
So near is God to man,
When duty whispers low, 'thou must,'
The heart replies, 'I can.'

It is with silent footfall, bated breath and pitying eyes that I approach you who are sitting under the shadow of a great grief, whose aching hearts long unutterably for 'the touch of a vanished hand, for the sound of a voice that is still.' Take heart! Look out into God's beautiful world and be comforted. We know that in the economy of nature nothing is lost, surely a human soul will be precious to Him.

'Hut where will God be absent! In His face Is light, but In His shadow healing too.'
PHYSICIAN'S WIFE.'

"I have not been well in over 10 years, although

PHYSICIAN'S WIFE."

"I have not been well in over 10 years, although not now confined to the bed like so many of the poor sufferers. I am able to be dressed and sometimes to walk about the house, but not to do any work. I would like to get some honest woman who would, for the sake of a good home, kindness, and one dollar a week, do the work for our family of three. We live in a very pleasant village, and have a farm near by, from which we have mik, etc., brought every day. I will correspond with any one wishing further particulars, and exchange references.

Mrs. J. E. T., Box 437, Hamilton, N. Y."

"He there room for me to tell my sad story? I have

"Is there room for me to tell my sad story? I have not walked a step in nearly 22 years, caused by that terrible disease, rheumatism. I have neither father nor mother, but I have one dear good brother who is not married, and he is so kind to me. I am boarding this summer with a kind friend, and my brother comes to see me often and brings me such nice things; how I would love to share them with the

the Saviour before I was afflicted. I try to be patient and cheerful, for I know that it would only make my friends feel badly, and do me no good, if I were to fret and complain. My Father helps me to be patient, and I ask Him very often. I have a good many cancelled stamps if any one wants them.

MARY KINNEY, Downing, Mo."

"Will some one send me the numbers of Comport from Jan. to May, '92. I would be thankful for any reading matter; please do not forget me. FANNIE NELSON, New Birmingham, Tex."

FANNIE NELSON, New Birmingnam, Tex."
"Dear friends, I take this opportunity to thank all
who have so kindly written me and sent reading.
Every letter was a ray of sunsnine, and the reading
cheered my lonely hours and brought me new hope.
I could not answer your letters, for I am unable to
write without a great effort, but would be so glad to
write my lonely and the search of th

Willo Dell, Ohio."

It is too much to expect of our invalid friends, that they should answer all our letters, but let us write just the same, for we may be sure that they will be grateful for whatever we may do for them. "Do good, hoping for nothing again," this is our Master's command.

just the same, for we may be sure that they will be grateful for whatever we may do for them. "Do good, hoping for nothing again," this is our Master's command.

"If we can so much feel for each other, how much more can our Heavenly Father feel for His poor afflicted children? for "whom He loveth, He chasteneth." Then why not be patient? Christ suffered crucifation, can we not try to imitate Him? If we have no cross, we have no hope of a crown; if we had no sickness, we would not know how to appreciate health. A dear old sainted grandma remarked, a few days prior to her death, (being a cripple) 'I expect to throw down these old crutches soon, and walk without them, but not here.' I agree with Dr. Anthony; a good story has an enlivening effect upon a low-spirited person. I would be glad of some good reading, if any one has some to spare, and would like to correspond with some cousins.

ELIZA C. KEHT, Almira, Cass Co., Tex."

"Dear cousins, how much good it does us poor afflicted ones to know that you, in your busy lives, think of us who are shut in by an all wise Father. He gives us friends to cheer the lonely road. I thank all who sent me reading, etc.; I have sent some of it to others, so you see it has done doubled duty, I want to tell all the Shut-Ins to take Oxien; it has helped me lots. I could not sit up when I commenced taking it, and had not taken a giant box before I could sit up a little. I think it the best remedy for coughs and colds that I ever saw. I wish some cousin would work me a motto for my room. I have nothing to offer in exchange but native cacti.

Mrs. T. E. Jones, now of Port Oak, Tex."

"Kind friends, I am a Shut-In and badly afflicted. I cannot walk a step. Can use my hands and arms yet, when my strength will permit, and I am so thankful for that blessing. For nearly 9 years my husband has been an invalid more or less of the time, so he could not labor to earn anything and never will be able to again, and I can do nothing unless it is piccing or some such thing to pass away time. It loo

Right here we will have the COMFORT BIRTHDAY LIST FOR SHUT-INS.

COMFORT BIRTHDAY LIST FOR SHUT-INS.

Mary Whitaker-Barfell, Lake Valley, New Mexico,
Sept. 13.

Mrs. E. A. Brons, Vernonia, Columbia Co., Oregon,
July 26.

Mrs. H. W. Brown, Box 11, Kinde, Mich., Aug. 29.
Mrs. H. W. Brown, Box 11, Kinde, Mich., Aug. 29.
Mrs. M. J. Adams, E. Barnard, Vt., Aug. 26.
Miss Emerette Mason, Leonardsville, N. Y., Aug. 10.
Mrs. Grace Phillips, Wymore, Nebr., Sept. 28.
Mrs. E. Jones, Alexander City, Ala., Oct. 4.
Mrs. Wm. Pingrey, Yorkshire Centre, N. Y., Sept. 12.
Miss Minnie Roberts, Buford, Ga., Sept. 22.
Mrs K. Morris, Victor, Mont., Aug. 20.
I have published the entire list this month, but 11
future shall only print each time names of those
whose birthday comes in the next two months. For
instance, in October paper will appear the names of
those whose birthday occurs in October or November, and so on. I shall keep the full list myself, and
names may be added to it at any time, which will appear in their turn. All cousins who want to do something "In His Name," please remember these suffering friends on their birthdays with letters and any
pleasant tokens.

"I wish to warmly thank all who wrote me, but

"I wish to warmly thank all who wrote me, but could not reply as I would like to do, for want of money for postage. I have had letters from 30 different States, and they have made me very happy.

JEANETTE RICHMOND, Gibraltar, Ont."

"My address in May Comport was printed wrong, and I am so sorry, for it has prevented me from hearing from the cousins. Will not many of you write to me? a letter is a veritable angel to us who are shut in from the outside world. My home is in the mountainous part of Tenn., where it is very thinly settled; sometimes it is over a week that no one passes, and I see no one to speak to but those of my own family.

THOMAS BUNTEN, Lineback, Tenn."

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Names of those needing help: Mrs. E. C. D., care of Aunt Minerva. Mrs. Mary Benily, Swift, Tex.

Reading matter:
Mrs. A. J. White, Frametown, Braxton Co., W. Va.
Bettie Wray, Colcamp, Benton Co., Mo.

etters: Lillian J. Truelove, Ware, Mass. Mrs. E. A. Jones, Easton, N. H.

Pieces, stamps, etc.: Sylvia M. Willcutt, Plainford, Mass.

We have already filled the space allotted to us, so I must bid you farewell.
With loving wishes, AUNT MINERVA.

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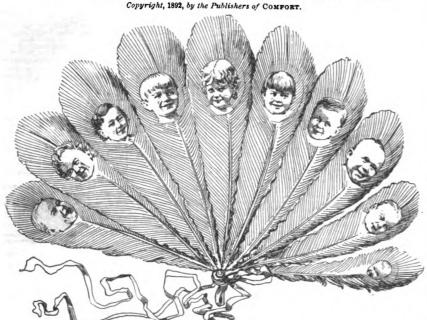


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A HAPPY HINT FOR A "COMFORT" FAN.





we were going to have a talk about bables and the pretty things we can make for them. And there are so many dainty, lovely accessories to the wardrobes of these mites of humanity! Even the sourest old maid can hardly get by the counter in the city stores where these fascinating articles are displayed, without stopping to look, and thus becoming an unconscious worshipper at the shrine of Queen Baby. And now that Christmas is approaching, what more welcome or appropriate present to a young mother than something of your own handiwork, for the little stranger who has come to her home.

While you are sitting and resting after your walk, I will tell you of some things in this line which I saw last winter, and thought them so pretty that I stowed them away in my mind for future use. One was a

CRIB BLANKET.

It was knitted of soft white wool, on large

CRIB BLANKET.

It was knitted of soft white wool on large ruler or bone needles, in suspender stitch. Acres each end were three stripes of bright yellow, in imitation of a large bed blanket, but of course proportionately narrower. The effect was very pretty and odd, and to any one who does not know what a charming combination white and yellow make it will be quite a surprise.

Another blanket, or

BUSY BEES WITH THREAD
AND NEEDLE.

ET me see, Sister Bees, this is the month that we were going to have a talk about babies and the pretty things we can make for them. And there are so many dainty, lovely accessories to the wardrobes of these mites of humanity! Even the sourest old maid can hardly get by the sourcest old maid the pretty vine or other pattern worked down the finest white

BIBS.

Very neat ones are made of linen, with a design outlined on them in red or white marking cotton. They may also be knitted or crocheled of knitting cotton, and these are very serviceable.

of knitting cotton, and these are very serviceable.

Now I will give some one else the floor. What were you going to say, Mrs. B.?

"Please tell us how to make suspender and star stitches, which you spoke of for the afghans. Some of the Bees may know, but I hope they will not mind the repetition."

Why certainly, with pleasure. I am not very familiar with suspender stitch myself, but will tell you as nearly as I can. Cast on any number of stitches wanted, and knit across plain. Turn, knit the first stitch plain, (the first and last stitches of each row are always knit plain) then thread over, slip one seam fashion, knit one, narrow. Repeat across. Turn, knit the edge stitch, and proceed as in previous row, narrowing by knitting the loop and stitch together. I do not know as this is very plain, but almost any old lady in your neighborhood will show you.

STAR STITCH

Another blanket, or

Arghan

for Baby, was crocheted in alternate stripes of deep pink and white in star stitch, and finished by a wide shell border of the pink. The wool was, I think, single zephyr, but Starlight or the finest quality of Germantown could be used. I believe that I have told you once about the lovely

BABY PILLOW

that one of my friends made, but will venture to repeat the description for the benefit of those who were not at that meeting. It was before star as before star as before directed, and re-

one, take the second under the one chain, the that one of my friends made, but will venture to repeat the description for the benefit of the benefit of previous sext relative stitch sext

STAR STITCH. stitches are taken up in the

stitches are taken up in the three chain.
"When you were speaking of bibs," says Annie Laurie from her snug seat in the corner of the sofa, "I was reminded of one which I saw a friend making the other day, and thought it so simple and useful that I got the directions.

BABY'S CROCHET BIB.

Use coarse linen thread, or knitting cotton No 14. Make a ch of 7 sts. and work back and forth in the back loop of st, increasing by making 3 sts in the middle st of each row. This will have a ribbed effect, and twice across makes one ridge. Make 31 ridges. On 10 sts, at each end, make 16 ridges, to form the sleeve and fasten upon the bib, 41-2 inches from the ends. Carry the point between each sleeve over the front of bib, first crocheting a border all around bib and sleeves. For border: 1st row.—1tr, 1ch; repeat. 2d row.—2tr, 2ch, 2tr all on 1 tr; miss 1 tr, and on next tr make a shell like first.

3d row.—Shell (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) under 2 ch of 2d row.

4th row.—1 dc under 2 ch, 6 tr under next 2 ch;

4th row.-1 dc under 2 ch. 6 tr under next 2 ch;

the row.—1 de under 2 ch. of t under hext 2 ch, repeat.

5th row.—3 ch, 1 dc between each tr.

Finish with bows of ribbon on each sleeve and on the point in front and tie behind with ribbons set on half an inch below the sleeve

line. "Sister Bees," exclaims Hattie Bond, "just hold your breath while I give you such a nice pattern for the hems of babies dresses. I worked one all over for my baby, and think it is lovely. It is called

stovely. It is called

spider web needle work.

Have the goods double, mark squares with pencil and rule, as wide as you want them. Now cut each way from the middle of each square, and double the corners in between the goods; button-hole stitch all around, then overcast, button-hole, and overcast, until the hole is filled. Here is a sample to show you how it looks when finished."



row; (a) 1 dc, 2 tr in 3d of next 5 ch; repeat from (a) all round. This finishes one strip; work the rest in the same way.

After all the strips are worked, join them together thus: 1 dc in first point of scallop of first strip and first point opposite of second strip together; 2 ch, 1 dc in next 2 points, and so on until all the strips are joined; then work the same border across the top and ends of the afghan. I embroidered the strips of fiannel with sprays of flowers, but it is very pretty without."

Queen Bee, will you tell the Bees about those pretty balls that you made for the babies at the Foundling Asylum last Christmas? You know, Sisters, that the babies soon get old enough to want something to play with, and anything that will keep them still while the busy mother works, will be appreciated.

"The balls were made very simply," replies Queen Bee, "and it is a good way to use up odd and ends of worsted. I knew a young girl who made a dozen for a variety store about the holiday season, and they found a ready sale. They are knitted in this way:

KNITTED BALLS.

Cast 30 stitches of any bright colored worsted



the needle. Turn and knit back until you are within? stof the end of the needle. Continue in this way, leaving one more st at each end each time, until you have 10 unknit sts left at each end of the needles. This forms one gore. Now tie on worsted of another color, and knit across the needle. This is the beginning of the second gore, which is knit like the first. Knit 6 gores in the same way. Bind off the sixth gore, and with a darning needle, securely fasten the ends Sew the opening about half way up on the wrong side, then turn and stuff with woof. Shape with the hands, to make the ball as round as possible, and sew a little way at a time, until the seam is closed and the ball completed."

"Now, Queen Bee, I can give you a little improvement on that if you will allow a suggestion," interposes a young mother from the corner. In the middle of the ball, among the stuffing, put a tiny pill-box containing one or two beans, or small shot, and see how the rattle will please the baby. I know by experience how much delight they will take in them."

"That seems to be a good idea," replies Queen Bee, "but as I am one of those 'sour old maids of whom Busy Bee spoke so scornfully, I cannot be expected to know as well as you what would please the babies. Oh, don't apologire, Busy Bee, I'll forgive you this time!"

I believe no one has spoken of INFANTS SHIRTS so I will give my favorite pattern.

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A Child's Love for a Doll.

HAS OFTEN BEEN COMMENTED ON.—READ ABOUT THE NEW STYLE DOLLS.





ished German legend, babies are brought by storks. This may account for the reverence in which they are held even at the present time, in that country.

Many other nations in both ancient and modern times have

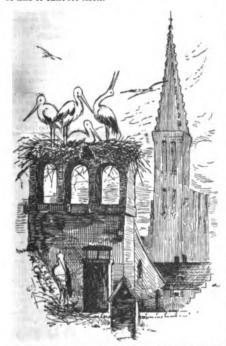
Many other nations in both ancient and modern times have reverenced the stork and they are still regarded sacred by the Mahometans to be for the purpose of making a pilgrimage the birds that if a person should cry out "Allah, Allah" while they are flying overhead, they at once drop to the ground and bury their heads in the earth. If any one should touch them they droop and die. Impossible as this seems, there are Europeans even of undoubted veracity who have visited the Orient and who not only believe it to be true bustate that they have seen such an occurrence.

In Germany storks are protected by the authorities from molestation and are permitted to make their nests upon high roofs, chimney tops, towers and tall spires. These curious birds stand about three and a half feet high, with white breast and black wings; they have no cry, but instead clap their long red beaks with a most peculiar noise. They are very gentle and of peaceful disposition, excellent providers and in many respects models of deportment for the families whose house-tops they occupy. Every year they all leave on a certain day, migrating southward to the warmer climate of Africa, but return again in the spring, when the father of the family carefully repairs the nest. This latter is nothing very wonderful, architecturally speaking, resembling a small pile of sticks and brushwood more than anything else.

When the young birds are large enough to fly they usually are so fat and lazy that they don't want to

a small plie of sticks and brushwood more than anything else.

When the young birds are large enough to fly they usually are so fat and lazy that they don't want to learn. Thereupon the old storks punch it into an attentive attitude, and perching themselves upon the chimney edge, illustrate how easy the matter is by the most vivid pantomime, hopping around on one leg, flapping their wings and cutting up in the most comical manner. Then they try to induce the young one to make the effort. But it wont. So one of the old storks flies off a short distance, its long red legs hanging down below the wide spread, flapping wings. It circles about and returns presently and the young one is again coaxed to fly. As he still remains stubborn, both the fond parents unite in shoving him off boddily. He makes a great fluttering and flopping as he descends, but before falling far gets the control of his wings, and soon flies off almost as well as the others. After this the old storks will not feed it and it has to shift for itself.



Our picture shows the storks of Strassburg, with the spire of the famous cathedral in the distance. Apart from their regular migrations these storks have never left the city but once, and that was when it was furlously bombarded for many weeks by the Germans, during the Franco-Prussian war. It was then a French city, but was captured by the Germans, to whom it has belonged ever since.

In the cathedral is the famous Strassburg clock, one of the wonders of the world, and visited yearly by vast numbers of sight-seers. It was built over three hundred years ago and contains models of the solar system, and many human and other figures. At every quarter of an hour doors open in the framework, figures walk forth and form a most striking and realistic religious pantomime.

A HEART HINT.

Here is a bit of useful advice from a noted physician: Life would be prolonged by a little more attention to the heart, by paying a little respect to the most faithful servant we ever have. Much good might be done, also, if parents would teach their children the danger of overtaxing the heart. They should teach them to stop and rest a few moments during their play when they begin to feel the violent throbbing of their hearts against the chest-wall.

ABOUT HANDKERCHIEFS.

ABOUT HANDKERCHIEFS.

France is the land from which comes the thousand trifles in dress and ornament dear to women all over the world, yet in this home of the great Goddess Fashion a handkerchief was thought so shocking an object that until the reign of the Empress Josephine no lady would have dared to use it before anyone. The name itself was carefully avoided in refined conversation. An actor who would have used a handkerchief on the stage, even in the most tearful moments of the play, would have been unmercifully hissed; and it was only in the beginning of the present century that a celebrated actress, Mile. Duchesnois, dared to appear with a handkerchief in her hand. Having to speak of this handkerchief in the course of the piece, she could never summon enough courage to call it by its true name, but referred to it as "a light tissue."

to call it by its true name, but referred to it as "a light tissue."

A few years later, a translation of one of Shakespeare's plays, by Alfred de Vigny, having been acted, the word handkerchief was used for the first time on the stage, amid cries of indignation from every part of the house. It is doubtful if even to-day French ladies would carry handkerchiefs if the wife of Napoleon I had not given the signal for adopting them. The Empress Josephine, although really lovely, had bad teeth. To conceal them she was in the habit of carrying small handkerchiefs, adorned with costly laces, which she constantly raised gracefully to her lips. Of course, all the ladies of the Court followed her example, and handkerchiefs then rapidly became an important part of the feminine toilet.

Happenings, Here, There № Yonder.

In Paris the cabmen have struck for better pay.

In Paris the cabmen have struck for better pay. The Iron Hall inquiry at Indianapolis has been attracting a great deal of attention all over the country.

Koehler, once an actor of some prominence in this country, has recently taken orders as a Dominican friar in Springfield, Ky.

The Thracian, a new ship being towed from Greenock where she was built to Liverpool to be rigged out, capsized and sank with twenty-five men on board.

on board.

In Fall River, Mass., a Mr. and Mrs. Borden were murdered by an axe. No satisfactory explanation of the crime has yet been found; but a Miss Lizzie Borden the step-daughter of Mrs. Borden has been arrested upon suspicion.

On exhuming the body of Mrs. Charles Block, buried eight years ago in Hazeland Cemetery near Montezema, lowa, the remains were found to be petrified and a bunch of roses held in the hand of the deceased was also turned to stone.

Rome, Ga., furnishes a startling snake story with variations. Seeing his snakeship lying on the road a gentleman prodded with his cane. The snake straightened its body, spread out two long wings like a goose, arose in the air, and flew across the field.

The buildings of the World's Columbian Exhibi-tion at Chicago have been well advanced toward com-pletion. They will be ready for the dedication cere-monies in October. It is expected that then there will be great rejoicing and a great celebration in Chicago.

A serious accident recently took place in Amenia, N. Y. At a church communion vitriol was passed around to the communicants instead of the communion wine. Twenty persons sipped the poison and suffered intensely; but all were saved by prompt treatment.

An improved method of gold mining has been brought out by a gentleman in Butte, Mont. Finding nuggets in the crop of a chicken he thereupon killed the remainder of his brood and in the thirty-one found gold amounting to \$487. Did he or did he not "kill the goose that laid the golden egg"?

Captain Anderson in command of one hundred and fifty of the Tennesee militia was menaced by several thousand rioters. He was called upon to surrender. He declined. He was threatened with death for himself and his command. "All right," he answered, "but mark my grave so that my wife may find it."

The discrimination of the Canadian authorities against American vessels passing through the Welland Canal has nearly resulted in serious trouble between the two governments. The difficulty has not yet been settled but the threat has been made by the United States to exclude all Canadian vessels from the canal at Sault Ste. Marie.

vessels from the canal at Sault Ste. Marie.

The John Sylvester, an excursion boat in New York Bay recently met with a curious accident. While on a trip, loaded with passengers, one of the paddle wheels struck a floating log forty feet long. The log became so lodged in the paddle box that the machinery of the boat was stopped, resulting in the helpiess floating of the steamer for an hour or more but no more serious damage.

Congress her passed a bill providing for the colors.

Congress has passed a bill providing for the coinage of 5,000,000 half dollars souvenir coins to be presented to the managers of the World's Columbian Exposition. It is the expectation of the managers that they will be able to sell the entire issue at a large premium. It is stated, indeed, that an offer has already been made of \$4,500,000 for the entire 5,000,000 for the good of the fair.

the good of the fair.

In Tennesee the prisoners of the State are leased to contractors to work the iron mines. They are confined when not at work in Stockades. Recently, the free miners resenting the competion of the convicts marched upon these stockades and released the prisoners. The millita of the State were called out to subdue the rioters and restore order; but the Governor of the State ordered the release of the convicts. He is a candidate for re-election.

He is a candidate for re-election.

The gallant little blue grass mare Nancy Hanks recently lowered the record of American trotting. She
trotted a mile in Chicago in the astonishing time of
2.07 1-4. Maud S. and Sunol have both been beaten.
Nancy Hanks is only six years old and it is the
opinion of her driver and trainer that she will yet reduce her own record. It is reported that her race
against time was witnessed with great enthusiasm by
over ten thousand people. How many people know
hat Nancy Hanks was the name of Abraham Lincoin's mother.

At Homestead, Pa., the great strike of the cover-

coin's mother.

At Homestead, Pa., the great strike of the operatives of Carnegie, Phipp & Co., has not yet been settled. The place is still guarded by the militia of Pennsylvania called out by the Governor. The mill owners claim that they are gradually filling the works with new men; but the old workmen still claim that they see victory before them. The outcome is still uncertain; but since the outbreak when the company attempted to land Pinkerton Guards upon their property for its preservation, as alleged, there has been no serious disorder.

Whenever the majority of the House of Commons

Whenever the majority of the House of Commons is opposed to a ministry it is dismissed. After the late election and the victory of the Liberals Mr. Gladstone was called by the Queen and requested to form a cabinet for the government of the British Empire. The Queen was at Osborne in the Isle of Wight. Thither Mr. Gladstone travelled, being greeted by the populace and applauded at every stopping place. He was met by the Royal Yacht and by it taken to Osborne and there he dined with the Queen and afterward, as the custom is, slept in the palace.

Queen and afterward, as the custom is, slept in the palace.

The parliament of England lost as it seemed the support of the public and was recently dissolved. A new election was ordered, and the liberals as represented by Mr. Gladstone and his followers were returned to power. The battle was fought upon the issue of home rule for Ireland. Mr. Gladstone's majority amounted to only forty-two and there was some doubt felt whether he would be able to control the house with so small a majority; but in a test vote a lack of confidence was expressed in the then existing ministry and it resigned. Lord Salisbury ceased to be Prime Minister of England.

The cholera rages in Russia and the east. In Russia the deaths have numbered over 4,000 a day, while in Teheran people have died at the rate of 2,000 a week. It was reported to have appeared in Paris; but the authorities have claimed that the disease was not Asiatic cholera but something similar although less severe. Great efforts have been made by the European countries to prevent the spread of the disease. It is stated by the Health Officers of New York and other ports of entry in this country that the Quarantine regulations are so excellent and so well enforced that it is impossible for the scourge to come here.

An extraordinary tale of five wild steers comes from New York. They were being led through the

well enforced that it is impossible for the sourge to come here.

An extraordinary tale of five wild steers comes from New York. They were being led through the streets; but broke loose. They tossed a few passers-by. One ran one of his horns into a horse fastened to a truck killing it. Another broke into a butchers shop, of all places in the world. It drove out all who were in it and then pursued its mad career. Two were killed after a long time by policemen, one having been shot about thirty times, the other about twenty. One after being shot several times was lassoed and its throat then cut by a butcher. Two attempted suicide by jumping into the river; but they too were lassoed and so saved.

Those conspicuous puglists Mr. John L. Sullivan of Boston and Mr. James J. Cobbett of San Francisco, have been preparing for a great fistic encounter in New Orleans early in September. It is reported that Mr. Sullivan by dint of much hard work in the gymnasium and many hard runs in the hot sun over dusty roads has reduced the mighty paunch which easy living and much drinking has given him. He has lowered his weight, it is said, from 245 pounds to about 204. It was not necessary for Mr. Cobbett to work so hard. He was almost down to weight at the beginning of his training. It is reported though that he is very strong and in perfect condition. He weighs about 195 pounns.

An interesting story of life-long devotion comes from England. Some thirty odd years ago, two high.

An interesting story of life-long devotion comes from England. Some thirty odd years ago two high born English people were much attached to each other; but the man forbore to speak of his love. The lady married his rival. The man remained single They continued to be great friends and the man it is

said never undertook a step of importance in the game of politics in which he was prominent. One was never invited to a town or country house unless the other was too. Nothing was ever said against the lady's character. Two years ago the lady's husband died. Now at sixty years of age, or so, the old lovers have been married. The man is the Duke of Devonshire; the lady was the Duchess of Manchester.

The political campaign has not yet become very exciting. The campaign committees have organized. Of the Republican Committee Mr. Thomas H. Carter of Montana has been made Chairman and headquarters has been chosen and occupied at 518 5th Avenue in New York. Mr. William F. Harrity of Pennsylvida has been appointed Chairman of the Demonstrate Committee with headquarters a little lower down on the same avenue. Mr. Whitelaw Reid the candidate for Vice-President on the Republican ticket, and Gen. Adlai E. Stevenson, on the Democratic, occasionally make speeches. Their chiefs do less. Mr. Harrison is busy with his official duties and Mr. Cleveland with his correspondence. The real heat and bustle of the campaign will begin later. The Inman Steamship Company recently by a

real heat and bustle of the campaign will begin later. The Inman Steamship Company recently by a special act of congress was enabled to register their steamers The City of Paris and The City of New York as American ships. They are to build in America two or three other ships of similar size. The contracts have been given to the Cramps, of Philadelphia. Now these fine ships may not be drafted by the English government as auxiliary cruisers, or transports, as English ships may be in case that country has trouble or war. The Inman ships are soon to sail regularly for Southampton instead of to Queenstown. Although the journey by water from New York to Queenstown is longer than from New York to London is less, Southampton being much nearer London than Queenstown.

For some reason or another the Reading Railroad

London than Queenstown.

For some reason or another the Reading Railroad has paid its Western workmen more than it has its Eastern. The switchmen of the Eastern division at Buffalo asked for the same pay as their Western fellows; but the company declined to accede. The workmen struck. The switchmen on the other lines refused to handle freight for or from the Reading Road. The strike became a general one involving some thousands of men. Disorder was feared and attempted and the whole National Guard of the State of New York was ordered under arms. Some ten thousand soldiers were concentrated at Buffalo. They were provided, each man, with sixty rounds of ball cartridges. Such a display of force, whether necessary or not, shows the ease and celerity with which the citizen soldiers of New York can be put under arms and moved to any point where disorder seems imminent.

The planet Mars has been in opposition or un-

arms and moved to any point where disorder seems imminent.

The planet Mars has been in opposition or unusually near the earth recently as happens once in about seven years. It has been possible to make many very interesting and valuable observations of it through powerful telescopes. The limits of the snow which covers part of it furthest from the sun have been accurately located; certain apparent canals, which were noticed some years ago and, which it is believed by some, must be the work of hands, have been seen again, but important changes have taken place in them. The sea and land have been distinguished from one another and even their color ascertained. The land appears to be of a gray color while the sea shows a watery green. Many great changes have taken place in the relative positions of the sea and land since 1888 when a map of Mars was made. There has been discovered no positive evidence that Mars is inhabited; but it has been discovered that the conditions are such as to support life as we understand it.

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The fact that the regular circulation of Com-FORT has passed the million mark furnishes pleasing proof of its unrivalled popularity.

Could "Autumn Comfort Through Country Spectacles" be more happily portrayed than by the "Picnic in Pictures" on our September title-page?

During the last six months nearly thirty thousand dollars were expended every day on the World's Fair exhibition buildings, and for several months to come a similar outlay will be necessary. The committee in charge has just made public the official announcement that the "Fair will be dedicated and opened on time."

American girls who are longing to win titles by linking their fortunes with foreign nobility, should take warning from the report of the United States consul at Crefeld. This says: Of thirty-three marriages between foreign noblemen and American belles every one proved un-happy, divorce or abandonment following in a time. Brutality and violence was in every instance the cause of the separation.

That the coming World's Fair will not be lacking in unique exhibits such as the ordinary mortal seldom if ever sees, may be gathered from the proposed plan of Captain Amos Chapman of Boston to send a live sperm whale not less than sixty feet long.

Captain Chapman feels confident that with a picked crew of experienced whalemen he can capture one of these sea monsters and tow it by steamer, in a specially constructed floating tank, up the St. Lawrence river and through the chain of lakes to Chicago.

There is a scheme afoot, favored by the Sons of the Revolution and other patriots, to give the Star Spangled Banner a "gilt edge," not as a sign of the present prosperity and golden future of the country over which it waves, but to perpetuate the colors-blue and buff-of the brave Continentals. It is not proposed to border the entire flag, but to widen a trifle the binding on the edge nearest the pole, and make it yellow instead of white as at present. The Sons of the Revolution above referred to are an association of men whose forefathers fought in the War of Independence. The dues of the society are nominal, but every member's descent from Revolutionary heroes must be absolutely proven.

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GIVEN TO COMFORT READERS.

In the October issue "The Nutshell Story Club" will make its bow to our readers and add another entirely new and original department to Comfort, With a view to making this at once one of the most entertaining features for every fireside, we have deposited one thousand dollars in cash in the Granite National Bank of Augusta, Maine, which sum will be paid as or for the hest original short stories every month. Every man, woman, boy or girl who is a regular subscriber to Comfort may compete for these cash prizes, full particulars of which will appear in our next issue. By subscribing at once for a whole year's Comport, it costs only 25 cents, or getting some friend or neigh-

commencing at the head and shoulders the Kate Sanborn, Author and Farmer. hot air will be kept from entering the lungs, but see that the person can breathe freely Act promptly and don't lose your head. If a physician is within easy call, do not dress the burns with any home remedies. They frequently prevent him from applying something much more suitable, and also from making a careful examination of the injuries.

One of the most desirable and useful accomplishments is the art of expressing our thoughts in writing. In several original departments Comfort presents to all an opportunity of mastering this art. Our offer of artistic prize monograms to contributors to the Aunt Minerva department will enable those who have "good news for all" to tell it with pleasure to the million and profit to themselves. And now that we are again on the threshold of the reading and letter-writing season, our friends should remember that, as Comfort is the passport for a reserved seat in the chariot of contentment, the more they bring their favorite publication to the notice of neighbors and acquaintances the more happiness they will confer upon others. Think of it! A whole year's COMFORT for only twenty-five cents. Every effort on the part of our old friends to introduce us to new ones will meet with increased exertions on our part to make Comport still more comforting.

The bill providing for the creation of a National Highway Commission which passed the Senate the other day is one of special interest to every American. The object of the bill is the improvement of public roads of the United States, and among other things it provides for the exhibition at the World's Fair of the best methods and appliances for roadmaking, and he collection of information bearing upon the building and care of roads.

methods and appliances for roadmaking, and the collection of information bearing upon the building and care of roads.

It has been well said that every man, woman and child is interested in the public road. At birth, at death, and at all intermediate points during life it is used, to a greater or less degree, by or for every individual member of society. It carries the doctor to the bedside of the sick, the pastor to admidister consolation to the dying, friends to the house of mourning, and the dead to their graves. It brings purchaser and consumer together. It is the avenue alike of pleasure and of traffic. The farmer seeking his market, the commercial traveler looking for customers, the millionaire in search of enjoyment with his coach-and-four, the wheelman in pursuit of health, the few seeking pleasure or profit on wheels, and the many in like pursuits on foot—all are interested in the public road. And yet, direct and immediate as these interests are, we are content to follow the methods of half a century or more ago, to submit to inconvenience, to discomfort, and to the immense waste of money and patience: not because we do not admit the advantages of a good road over a bad one: not because we cannot see, in theory at least, that a solid, smooth, level road which allows the farmer to convey to market twice as much with half the power is advantageous to him; not because it cannot be clearly demonstrated that in the end (because of the saving in annual repairs and the saving of waste in vehicles, horsefieth, harness, and the like) a good road is cheaper than a poor one—for all these things are distinctly and fully admitted by those who have given careful study to the subject—but because prejudice, opposition to change, and inimidiference control the masses of our people and dictate the course of legislation.

That good roads are paying investments has been demonstrated time and time again. Near Philadelphia, for instance, the building of two miles of moder and convenience of the people.

Hints for Home Comfort.

Eat slowly and you will not over-eat. Keeping the feet warm will prevent head-aches.

Late to breakfast-hurried for dinner-cross

A short needle makes the most expedition in plain sewing.

Between husband and wife little attentions beget much love.

Always lay your table neatly, whether you have company or not.

Whatever you may choose to give away, always be sure to keep your temper.

Dirty windows speak to the passerby of the negligence of the inmates.

There is much more injury done by admitting visitors to invalids than is generally supposed. Matches, out of the reach of children, should be kept in every bed-room. They are cheap

When sheets or chamber towels get thin in the middle, cut them in two, sew the selvedges together, and hem the sides.

When you dry salt for the table, do not place it in the salt cellars until it is cold, otherwise it will harden into a lump.

Persons of defective sight, when threading a needle, should hold it over something white, by which the sight will be assisted.

The phrase "yellow jack" has become but another name for the dreaded tropical yellow fever, but its original meaning was something entirely different. Whenever a vessel from a foreign country comes into port, she is boarded and examined by the health officers, and should only 25 cents, or getting some friend or neighbor to do so, all can have an opportunity of securing one of the regular monthly cash prizes ranging all the way from five to one hundred dollars.

**

In view of the many accidents caused by peoples' clothing catching fire, and the importance of instant action, the following suggestions furnished for Comfort readers by one of the most eminent hospital surgeons of America should be remembered by all: Quickly lay the ground. This prevents the flames rising towards the face and nostrils. Sieze a rug, carpet, blanket, table cover, coat or other articles of clothing, and wrap it about the person. By



the many women who spend
their lives on
quiet farms,
often regarding
their existence as
slow and dull, to slow and dull, to know something of a busy woman whose life in New 'ork and Boston as given her a longing for the quiet of a farm which has re-sulted in her buy-ing one, where

wearisome. She is always brilliant and witty whether her mood be light or serious, and indeed, one of her special charms is the rapidity with which it varies from grave to gay. It is this quality which has most contributed to the success of heracer as writer and lecturer and renders it easy to understand why her friends think it no effort to "drop in" from Boston and New Yerk to enjoy a day or two of such rare companionship!

RENE S. PARES.

Henry Irving is fond of relating a little incident that occurred to him when in a Dorset-shire village last summer. Whilst passing a group of children one of them eyed him so sharply that the actor said, "Well, little girl, do you know me?" "Yes sir," was the reply, "you are one of 'Beecham's Pills.'" She had seen his face in one of their advertisements.

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THE 10T TO 20

THE JOT-TO CO., 55 LaSalle St., Chicago.

EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular scribers to Comfort, and every contribution must the writer's own name and post office address in full

the writer's oven name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may exceed the latter limit. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

LIST OF SEPTEMBER PRIZE WINNERS.

Hattie II. Lynde, J. F. Hale. Virgil Williams. Jos. Merritt. Maggie M. Lambert. Mrs. A. B. Lewis.

Each of the above will receive by mail a new electrotype of the prize monogram which appears in connection with his or her letter printed below.

EAR COMFORT FRIENDS: You will notice by the Editor's note that in future, all letters must be signed with the full name and address of the writer, when printed in the column. Now I have on hand a large number of excellent letters signed by a nom de plume, whose authors complied with my re-quest to send their address, but did not wish it to be printed. If any of these would like to compete for a monogram prize, let them write me at once whether they are willing to have their real names appear; if I do not hear from them, the letters will be printed over the nom de plume, but will have no chance of re-ceiving a prize. All please remember that, as I announced in the August issue of Comport, letters sent in after that date will be rejected, unless the writers are willing that their real names should appear. The use of noms de plume has caused me much unnecessary work, in the great number of letters sent me to forward, and the trouble of keeping a list of all the addresses of those who were not willing that their names should be printed. All this will be done away under the new rule, and I shall have more time to devote to other branches of my work which I have

There are so many fine letters this month, that I will not take up more of the time. You will all be grateful to our kind Editor for the pains which he has taken to have our column so neatly and appropriately illustrated.

been obliged to neglect.

Dear All:—The age of pictures is returning, and with it comes increased interest in physiognomical delineations of character from photographs. What a treat in the April number was that "pictorial page"! Look at that page again and then read the letters following, and see if you can find any correspondence between each epistle and its author's likeness. Then if you will, "Gaze on this picture and then on that." What a variety! What contrasts! Study them, and learn the "lore which wigerowned history scorns." In that same number one of the junior cousins wants to know what kind of a nose she has. I will endeavor to answer.

Figure 1 represents as nearly as I could convit, our little cousins's nose. Now what does it say? It is a veritable key to her strongest trait as expressed in her letter, viz:—inquisitiveness. Of course she wants to know about her rose and about a thousand other things. It is the nose of child-hood, and on account of the character with which it is associated and its similarity in form tea certain mark of punctuation, it may be called an interrogative nose.

While the above is the proper kind of nose for a child to have, such a nasal organ or rather such a

rorr cousins should ever come to such a nose as this. To the dear girl cousins I would say: Shun the faintest prophecy of such a nose as you would a mad dog. Remember that it is better for one good nose to stand alone than for many noses to go down in shame. If these lines be the means of improving the lines of any nose they will not have been written in vain. Yours affectionately, J.F. HALE.

of any nose they will not have been written in vain.
Yours affectionately,

Dear Auntie:—I hail from the famous Lone Star State, the booming prosperous county of Willbarger. The country is broken in this section by the breaks of Wichita river and Beaver creek; the rivers of this country abound in splendid fish, principally catfish. The waters of the Wichita owing to its tolerably broad bed are very shallow, nearly all the streams of any size here are quicksandy, which makes them dangerous and disagreeable to ford, therefore this county is putting good iron bridges on all the principal public roads. In one very essential thing we are deficient in this county, that is a good supply of first grade school teachers and music marms; our schools are from 3 to 9 months terms, moderately small and easily controlled. I think some of the cousins had better come to these parts who like these professions. For the benefit of some of my sportingly inclined cousins I will say a few words upon the game resources of Willbarger Co. We have an abundance of quail Jack and cottontail rabbits, the prairie dog in any quantities which are very destructive little creatures; this county pays a bounty of 50 cts, per doz, for their scalps, they as a general rule live on grass but wheat staying green all winter they like it, and it is astonishing to see how much a town of these little vernin can destroy. The farmers generally poisoned wheat around their dens in cold weather. They will eat it rather that venture any distance from



home; they are very cunning and sly, a man on foot can hardly ever get close enough to kill one of them with a shot gun and then if he is anywhere near the hole, although you might blow the animal's head off, you would not get him, he would go to the bottom of that hole to die. Rabbits, owls and snakes all den together with these little enemies of cultivation. We also have by way of large game wild turkey, prairie chicken and antelope, the latter which I consider far ahead of the best beefsteak. They are also very shy, it takes an expert at hunting to get near enough to kill one with the very best of shot guns. Then we have the wild cat or catamount, cayote or prairie wolf, Lobo wolf, Mexican lion or Conger, otter and all manner of smaller animals such as the polecat or skunk, raccoon, opossum, mink, badger, etc. Will close by asking what has become of cousin Aurora, perhaps it is the wrong season in the year for the (Aurora) to shine, however, I will guess that she is married.

Wac P. O., Willbarger Co., Texas.

"Lam a native of Kansas, but have lived a part of

"I am a native of Kansas, but have lived a part of my life in Nebr. Ger -aphically you all know how Kansas is situated, how many cities, etc.; but I shall endeav-or to tell what is not learned in geograph-ies. Kansas of the junior cousins wants to know what kind of a nose she has. I will endeavor to answer.

Figure I restlicted as nearly as I could convert it is not learned in geographic the proper in the proper kind of nose for an analysis of the little restliction and about a thousand other things. It is the nose of childhood, and on account of the character with which it is associated and its similarity in form to make the proper kind of nose for a character with which it is associated and its similarity in form to make the proper kind of nose for a child to have, such a nasal organ or rather such a lack of nose on the face of grown person, especially a favorably. It is the sign of weakness, childishness, or simply undevelopment. Dr. Simms in Human Faces says, "The nose that stands well of the state in spring, you would almajne that spring had spilled her born of flowers, and was in too big a grown person, especially a name that quality of mind that tends to elevate characters will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as body. That this is true a little observation will be a swell as become of william the analysis of the swell be a swell as become of the cousins are ashamed of what they



Napoleon, Scott, Sheridan, "Stonewall" Jackson, are examples.

The pure Grecian nose, like the Roman, is now sadly on the decline, rarely being seen except on statues. It is the nose of refinement, the result of the cultivation of the gesthetic faculties. Poets and artists have this form of nose.

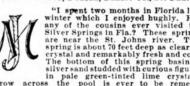
Figure 5 represents the Jewish nose, the owner of which delights in trade and commerce. Many successful merchants and bankers have this kind of nose, and so also does the miser, what which truly and seed the miser, what the seed of the course of the course of the course of the color of thecontents and successful merchants and bankers have this kind of nose, and so also does the miser, what which truly and sadly sho with the color of the contents of the color of the c

land when it has rained; and will also tell how came to be called

"I am a young Dakota school-teacher 20 yet old. Am a constant reader of Comfort, and enj Chats verymuch. Hope this part of the paper will continue to improve as it has in the last year. This is a very he a 1 th full ecountry. The climate is varied. In winter the weather is some times very cold, but the air is so a dry that little incon venience is felt. But the switners are generally mild, and stock sometimes live out on the range all the year, the buffalo grass furnishing excellent feed. I The summer is noted for warm days and cool, delightfulnights. This part of Dak, is quite thinly settled, owing to the distance from the railroad (30 will all its collections.) the distance from the railroad (30 miles). I live 6 miles from Crow Creek Indian Reservation, and

Reservation, and 25 miles from agency, Fort Thompson, which is situated on Missouri river. The Indians are daily visitors with us. They are a queer people, and still retain a great many of their uncivilized ways.

GEO. H. GRACE, Duncan, Buffalo Co., So. Dak."



retain a great many of their uncivilized ways.

GEO. H. GRACE, Duncan, Buffalo Co., So. Dak."

"I spent two months in Florida last winter which I enjoyed hughly. Has any of the cousins ever visited the Silver Springs in Fla.? These springs are near the St. Johns river. This spring is about 70 feet deep as clear as crystal and remarkably fresh and cool. The bottom of this spring besin is silver sand studded with curious figures in pale green-tinted lime crystals. A row across the pool is ever to be remembered. Everything that has been dropped into the water by preceeding visitors lies in the silver setting a rich emerald green. At one place a barely discernible bubbling points out the spot from which the water gushes out thousands of gallons every moment. A stone dropped toward the slight ledge of limestone rock 25 feet below is suddenly thrown in a curved line nearly to the surface by the rush of the spring from under the rock. With best wishes to all Comport frends.

"I agree with Apache about the Indians, and think that the whites have not treated them right from the first. When the English and French settlers came over here, they claimed the whole territory, regardless of the claims of the red men; and when the Indians said to them. The English claim all the land on one side of the Mississippi, and the French on the other. Where is our land? they had no answer for them, nor have they now. I have read Ernestine Schauer's letter, and thought about the subject a great deal. Ido not think that way is right, but when the Government is at stake, as it was in the Civil War, I say, defend it. Every true patriot will defend his country with his property and his life, if necessary. Adam's Wife does not seem to think that a woman should do anything that is professional. I do not agree with her, for I think that when a woman has to support heresif, she has a right to do whatever kind of work she chooses.

**NOTE.-A monogram would have been awarded for above had the author's name been given. Hereafter all

NOTE.—A monogram would have been awarded for above had the author's name been given. Hereafter all letters must be signed in full by the writers.

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"I live near the beautiful city of Waco which was my former home, so called after the Waco tribe of Indians who first lived here long years ago. It is situated on the Brasos river over which is a suspension bridge the fifth largest in the world. I agree with Mrs. Roaks exactly in wishing the older mothers would give more of their valuable advice and experience in training children. I have seen children who it seemed that instead of having proper training were left to roam the streets with the worst of company, or just anywhere in the world to get rid of them, while they perhaps were out on their pleasure trips. If these children are continually getting into trouble, such as trying to throw street cars from the track by placing rocks in the way, breaking electric lamps, stealing the neighbor children's things, and many other such which leaft to worse crimes, who are to biame but their parents? And this neglect of children in notice is practiced more or as much among the wealthier class who are able to do a much better part by them. I think we ought to keep our children with us as much as possible. Take them with us to church, Sunday-school, to innocent amusements and even shopping, all of which is a training school for them, And if we have not the advantage of sending them to school we should teach them at home. Above all we should teach them to be truthful and respectful to every one, for we all know that an impudent and story telling child is detested and avoided by every one whose misfortune it is to come in contact with. I think the letter party idea is a nice one for the Shut-Ins. And dear cousins don't let us forget to look out for their list. Before I close let me give you all my first experience in Tex. with storms. I never was afraid of storms much but my husband is painfully so. And Texas was visited by a severe one about the first of June which did much dam

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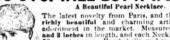
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18K

THE NATIONAL

MFG. AND IMPORTING CO. 334 Dearborn S. Chicago, III. CO. beneath a steep hill. And as I was quite willing to rest with my burden of clothes, we all settled down and gathered ourselves together under our quilts and oil cloths as a hen gathereth her brood under her wings. Everything above and below breathed of speedy and awful tempest. And to reverse the poet's song:

"Twas oft in the inky blackness, Of that stormy night in June,
The flame of the flashing lightning Shone redder than many a moon."

But we sat like a work of Grecian art, awaiting for

Shone redder than many a moon."

But we sat like a work of Grecian art, awaiting for the storm to burst in all its fury, listening to the hard rains music upon the oil cloth until the rain began to stream down the hill under us and we found ourselves in the black mud. By this time the wind had abated and also the rain, so we pulled ourselves up out of the mud and started back home. And I leave you to picture us trudging up a slippery hill trailing our weighty quilt and oil cloths behind us. But we arrived at home at last a wetter if not wiser family and retired for the night.

Mrs. A. B. Lewis, 600 North 5th St., Waco, Tex."

"I will give you a little description of the place in which I live. It is the quiet little village of Buzzards Bay in the southeastern chusetts, taking its situated at the exthe waters of Buzzards is noted for being a be au tiful watering place and the home of many prominant citi. place and the home of many prominent citizens. Along the banks which skirt the beautiful bay is found the sum mer home of expresident the place where he finds so muchdelight in enjoying the fine fishing and boat ing which he so much damires. It is here where he and Mrs. Cleveland the bbusy. choose to retire from haunts of city life the beautiful enjoy-find in their summer Joseph Jefferson the fine summer resie ve la nd
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or has a
ice here, and he with his family and guests enjoy
pleasures of boating and fishing. Buzzards Bay
the junction of the Woods Hall branch R. with
Old Colony Cape Cod line to the extreme town
the cape. Onset Bay grove is only a few miles
tant where the spiritualists hold meetings every
mmer. F. N. CRAPO, Buzzards Bay, Mass."
F. N. CRAPO, Buzzards Bay, Mass."

distant where the spiritualists noid meetings every summer.

F. N. Crappo, Buzzards Bay, Mass."

"William A. Hollcraft, Delta is my old home and I am very glad to learn that there is one young man in that town who does not frequent the saloons, and has the courage to say so. Nonie, I think your idea of girlcotting the young men who use tobacco and intoxicants is a splendid one, and that a more efficient way of stopping the ravages of these vices could not be adopted. I have often wished that we girls of the United States could form a society such as you suggest. But, girls, while we are criticising the wrong doings of the other sex, don't let us forget our own. I think that some of the articles of clothing that have for ages past been worn by women and girls to the infinite injury of humanity could well be dispensed with. Prairie Boy, you are just right in what you say about girls accepting the company of fast young men, for when a pure young girl marries a libertine it is paying a premium on the life he leads. Say what you will, girls, if you marry such a man, thinking to reform him, you will find, only too late, how true are the words of Tennyson:

'Yet it shall be, thou shalt lower to his level day by day.
What is fine within thee growing coarse to sympathize

what is fine within thee growing coarse to sympathize

As the husband is the wife is; thou art mated with a

own.
I the grossness of his nature will have weight to rag thee down.

thee down."
Yours sincerely,
EMMA L. PURDY, Kaweah, Tulare Co., Cal."



"Comfort has grown phenomenally in circulation, worth and popularity in such a comparatively short time, but no wonder, each page is full of good things. Music, painting sketching from nature and literature are subjects I love and delight in. Am at present watching with great interest the growth and development of a number of cacti sent me by friends from different parts of U.S. and other countries, how I love these wondrous plants. I suppose our Texas, Arizona and New Mexico cousins have seen rarer specimens than I, as I am told the rarest cacti grow in above named places. God's hand is seen everywhere, decking Earth's emerald garb anew. Dear cousins, in all your letters I find some thought or sentiment expressed that beats in unison with mine. Librarian, I envy the happy life you lead among our authors and authoresses. The perusal of W. E. Anthony's letter in Feb. issue of Comporn was both entertaining and instructive, and gave me great pleasure indeed, as I too love Dickens, have read and reread his books. Who of our authors have, or can more truly depict human nature in all its forms of vices or virtues, in all phases and grades of society, so truly as he? I will some time in future tell you of a delightful year I spent in the far, far West, among cowboys, Indians, soldiers, coolies and citizens. Was treated with courtesy and kindness by all above mentioned, from time I left home until I returned, including 3 months, in the sunny, hospitable South, breathing jessam, honeysuckle and magnolia perfumes, visiting old historical places and hearing the unwritten histories of the war, from active participants in it. All of which convinces me that in our glorious Republic (no nation can compare in past history with it) a young lady can travel with perfect safety and be sure of kind, courteous treatment every where, provided she acts her part as all truly bred American girls will. Correspondence solicited.

H. A. Tutell, Allegheny, Pa."

where, provided she acts her part as all truly bred American girls will. Correspondence solicited.

H. A. TUTELL, Allegheny, Pa."

"In sitting down to peruse the paper I not only strive to grasp the worthy thoughts but redeavor to thoroughly digest them, usually take pencil in hand and copy the most worthy sentiments, then at spare moments memorize them, and when woven into the innermost part of my soul, think it does much to characterize my life, to one not familiar in the mood of doing, it is quite surprising how much good they can derive in course of a year. I can't tell you how much solid comfort I take in repeating different authors' sentiments, while perform ing the domestic duties. Yes, I am a domestic in our own afmilty. AsI saw in the last number of COMPORT poor afflicted Miss Richmond was desirous of having the cousins tell of their homes I will say a word on the subject. I am the only one of 7 children at home, and trying to do my duty in relieving my mother's cares, as old age has crept upon her and unfit her to perform the household duties alone. We live on a farm 3-40 fa mile from a little hamlet of 600 inhabitants. We have quite a curiosity in the form of a natural bridge, which spans Indian river and on this account our little town bears the name of Natural Bridge, under the bridge is a cave which extends 1-4 of a mile in length certain, and some think it extends several miles, but for this we have no authentic authority, it's simply a supposition; beside this cave we have four other ones, which are visited by tourists during the summer months. Here too is the former home of Joseph Bonaparte who was brother of Napoleon Bonaparte of historic renown. At present the building yet not picturesque, as it is awkward in shape, on the whole think it was not planned by a very scientific architect. Are you all in sympathy with mother Nature? I am an ardent admirer of her, and long to hear the melodious music of the frogs, methinks I see a smile on some of the fair cousins' faces when I see as mile on some

nights I wend my way to the little brook close by our home and sit on the bank and listen to their joyous strains. Mrs. Whitney says, 'We live two lives; one with our deepest thoughts and feelings, the other with people and things.' I think the former draws out all there is good and holy within us.

Yours for improvement.

HATTIE M. LYNDE, Natural Bridge, N. Y."

Bear Aunty and Cousins:—With fear and trembling I approach the threshold of your charming circle and humbly seek admittance. I live away down in the pine woods of Mississippi where the air is fresh and fragrant and "The woods with mustering."

Near here is a beautiful creek called Sliver Stream. The water is so pure and clear that you can see the little fish playing hide and seek behind the lovely rocks. And its banks are now carpeted with soft, green moss dotted with bright red berries, while here and there are clusters of ferns and bunches of modest little violets.

My home is exactly four miles from the nearest town and I walk one mile to school. Last week my teacher requested me to write an essay for examination and the only time I had for it was Saturday.

I started off early in the morning with my paper, pencil and book of Memory Quotations from which i was to choose my subject.





the flowers warious hues was not much description thing to say sky only it.

Pshaw, the too common!

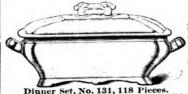
been on the north pole or bow I should something to but under the the flowers

about the scale was blue. Pshaw, the scene was blue. Pshaw, the scene was lift in had been on the scene was lift in had been on the moon, the scene was lift in had been on the moon, the scale was lift in had been on the moon, the scale was lift in had been on the moon, the scale was lift in had been on the moon had been on the something to describe. I knew what I could do, I was pretty good at writing tragic stories and I would get up a good one for examination. It must be something very exciting, something that should make the very souls of my hearris shiver. It should take place on a calm, beautiful night after the shouls of revery had ded away. The moon should be high in the heavens, throwing a pale light over the scene—but just at that moment the musical tones of the supper bell roused me and remembering my determination to cuitivate the habit of punctuality, especially at meal times, I left my essay, and everybody seemed very agreeably disappointed that I did not have any for examination. Now, my friends, I know this will indeed be, if at all, a poor addition to the interesting pages of the Comport, and I plead this as a sufficient cause for my brevity (?) Besides "When the cagle soars aloft, the bats take to their holes."

NOTE.—Had the writer's name been signed to this letter a price monogram would have been awarded.

With kindest wishes for all.

Aunt Minerva.



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JOHN RICHARDS' PAST.

BY SAMUEL FREEDMAN.



OHN RICHARDS, the village O HN BICHARDS, the village doctor, who, from his devotion to the sick, his kindness to the needy and his great knowledge of human nature, had become honored above the village magistrate; respected more than the schoolmaster and loved better than the minister, was walking slowly with bowed head up the dusty, village road to the house of Farmer Watkins where his loveliest and bestloved patient lived.

Evening was approaching. The

Lived.

Evening was approaching. The west was brilliant with red. On either side lay yellow and golden cornfields. In the distance, farmers were mowing and reaping; the cheery voices carried to the village highway by the same breeze as bore the scent of the hay.

John Richards passed the house of Dick Harding, whose wife was trimming the morning glories trailing over the porch and singing in her own way an old country melody.

elody.

"Love is always young 'tis said,
Youth and age should never wed,
Youth is full of morning light,
Age is dark from coming night,
Youth's alive and age is dead;
Youth and age should never wed."

Age is dark from coming night.
Youth's alive and age is dead;
Youth and age should never wed."

The village doctor paused for a moment as though the words of the song had a strange fascination for him. He leaned up to the fence placing his arms on the top rail.

"Bless us," cried the lady as she saw him, letting fail her trimming shears, "why, it's the doctor."

"Do you believe what you are singing about, mother?" he asked.

"Believe it? Why, it's true as Bible psalm. Many's the young wife who haint found an old husband to her likin" Didn't Sue Bradley git the only divorce in these parts for nigh seventeen years jist because Hiram Bradley was old and peevish like."

The village doctor did not stay to hear more. He turned away with a sigh and left the old lady standing still in amazement.

"Lord bless us," she said at last "it can't be that John Richards is in love. Why, if he would ask any girl in the village to be his wife she would die of conceit before the day would be over. They don't consider him old even if some gray hairs is sneakin' through his black ones."

The village doctor went his way. He felt his face, there were many wrinkles there. He rubbed his hands through his hair as though to feel the gray ones and he mumbled to himself the words of the refrain he had just heard.

His entrance seemed to bring with it a ray of sunshine into the Watkins' household and he was ushered with deference to a little hard-plastered room where the golden light of the evening sun was streaming in between the prond stalks of high sun flowers without and the faintest breath of the meadows crept in the partially raised window. On a reclining chair, propped with cushions, was Ruth his patient.

A faint smile and as light blush came to her face as he approached. He sat by her side and took her hand while a hungry, wistful, yearning look came to his eyes.

"Ruth," he said, "I have killed the fever that has been tearing your little body to pieces and yet, though

hand while a hungry, wistful, yearning look came to his eyes.

"Ruth," he said, "I have killed the fever that has been tearing your little body to pleces and yet, though you are recovered, you do not gain your former strength. I am now convinced that there is something more than of the body which worries you. You do not look me in the face any more, Ruth. You thwart me when I wish to study you. Was there not something that brought on this fever? Can you not tell it to me?"

The girl's features resumed their sickly pallor. She turned her face away.

"No," she said, "not to you."

An expression of pain crossed the village doctor's face.

"No," she said, "not to you."
An expression of pain crossed the village doctor's face.

"Ruth," he said, "you were too young to remember when your mother came here, a stranger among strangers. You know what she came this way for. It was to find your father wholwas in the mines in the West. She was taken sick here. I nursed her and before she died I promised to protect you, her budy girl. Afterwards, you know, I heard of your father. He had been killed in the mines. Then these good people assumed the places of your parents and I tried to be to you as he would have been—your counselor. And now as that counesior, Ruth, I ask you, is there anything that has come into your life which I should know—which you-should tell me?"

A sob from the pillow was the only reply.
"Ruth," he went on, "I have always let you do as you wished. I have guarded your body as best a physician could, but I could not do so with your heart. Ruth, is it a trouble of the heart?"

Another sob was still the only response and the patient moved slightly away from him.
"You have known all the young men of the village. There are many of them to admire and some of them to—love," and his face twitched slightly. "Do you—do you love any of them, Ruth?"
"No, no," she cried with spirit. "But you do love, Ruth," he said, and his breath for the moment came quicker, "am I not right?"
The girl's head was deep in the pillows.
"Yes," she said.
"Whom do you love, Ruth?"
"You, Mr. Bichards."
The yeller's face was entirely hidden by the pillows now, as though her head had sunk so from shame and humiliation.

The village doctor started back with a cry of wild yoy. In a moment he would have had her in his arms but a hand was placed on his shoulder and he stood face to face with Farmer Watkins who whispered to him:
"Come with me, John, I must speak with you."
Richards stood for a moment still with stupefied

face to face with Farmer Watkins now."
face to face with Farmer Watkins now."
Come with me, John, I must speak with you."
Richards stood for a moment still with stupefied astonishment till Watkins said very close to his ear:
"It's about your past, John."
Those words had a startling effect upon John Richards. He turned deathly pale and followed the other man.

ards. He turned deathly pale and followed the other man.

Farmer Watkins was a typical American, honest, honorable and in his way tried to be just. He was not broad or liberal intellectually, but he was so jealous of honor that he would have torn away his heart if dishonor had taken root there.

Reaching the open air he turned to the livid man following him and said in a kindly tone:

"She is not for you, John."

"Who is there to say not?" asked the other.

"You said it John, yourself, twenty years ago."

"What do you mean?"

"John, don't force me to tell you."

"Bpeak."

"Don't you see. wish to save you?"

"Speak."
"Don't you see . wish to save you?"
"SPEAK!"
"Well then, I will speak. You are not to marry her cause you are a fugitive from justice and are living

because you are a fugitive from justice and are living under another name than your own."
"My tood."
"John, have you forgotten that night in the East when the very man whom this village looks upon today as a ministering angel of God left his native place suddenly for he had embezzled from and ruined many miserable wretches?"
"Porgotten it! Forgotten. In the daytime when

suddenly for he had embezzled from and ruined many minerable wretches?"

"Forgotten it! Forgotten. In the daytime, when men would offer greeting, I shrink from contact lest they should say: 'I know you, John Richards, your place is not with honest men but criminals.' In the night when I would be in quiet, the air turns thick and black and through the delirium of sleep there rise cries, 'Sleep not. You have murdered sleep for too many.' In the calm of the church where I would go for peace and contentment behind me are hushed whispers: 'Thief. Why brings he his black heart here?' The whirl of the dance, the swell of the music, the ring of laughter all die away and echo into voices which forever cry: 'Wretch? Hypocrite! Embezzler!' The sir is filled with things that forever laugh and taunt, till it seems that madness would be mercy. Forget! Would to God I could!"

He sank to the table, while Watkins shrunk back, startled at the force with which Richards spoke and the sudden turn the conversation had taken. But Richards raised himself feverishly and asked hoarsely: "How did you find it out?"

hoarsely:
"How did you find it out?"

"When you were brought here that time stricken with fever, you raved about things which I inquired into and found out their truth, but I kept what I learned "At first one hesitates, then one says nothing, and

then one dares not speak," said Watkins. "I was sure that if you found I knew your secret, you would be forever suspicious of me and I cared too much for your friendship between man and man is an unusual thing in this selfish, hurly burly age, but when it exist there is nothing greater or better on earth. And though I knew that love had entered both your hearts, I said to myself, 'A man like him will never ask an innocent girl like her to be his wife. He knows better than I could tell him that his life's unfit to mate with hers,' and so I felt there was no fear. I thought John, you, yourself would decide where your dard ylay."

"But I love her so, Watkins, I love her so," said the your duty lay."

"John, I notice when our girl comes to you, you shudder before you take her while hand in yours. She comes to you, John, with a heart as pure and soul as white as those hands. Hers is a life on which the sun has always shone; would you cast the first cloud? You may have some claims on her, but she's like a child tous. She shan't marry a man who can't look his past in the face."

"Heaven builds the future from the past," sobbed Richards with his head in his arms.

"But God Himself clau't change a thing that's done," said the other. "Give her up, John. Be yourself. Be godly."

"It costs so much to be good," said Richards still with his face in his hands.

"It's the cheapest thing on earth, John," said Watkins. "You can have God for the asking, and there's no admission fee to Heaven!"

THE KIND THE PRESIDENT EATS.

THE KIND THE PRESIDENT EATS.

VERY few people will ever know how it feels to be President of the United States, but every reader of Comfort can eat just such sausage-rolls as are dispensed at the White House. Here is Mrs. Harrison's recipe for this simple but wholesome dish:

EXECUTIVE MANSION'

WASHINGTON.

ausage Kolk make, a light dough (nade In the center of ra roll of the size of a good sized Kickory hut, & roll the dough . as them stand in The for a few minutes These rolls are also good & when children we used to have the to school for luncheon in bad wea

"But I tell you that I love her," cried Richards springing to his feet. Words are good for those who can reason, but I'm beyond it. Others have done as I would do before. Have all my years of suffering been in vain!"

"I ask you now, have all your years of suffering been in vain? I have been her adopted parent, you her counselor; so come, though it be as strong a medicine as ever you ministered, tear this love from your heart—for the sake of our child."

Lights were now appearing in the cottages spread widely over the perspective from village to hill. Far away, there was the mellow tone of a dolorous bell in the steeple of the church, the form of which loomed dark on the crest of the distant hill, cast in relief against the brilliant horizon, while the red light of its windows welcomed the villagers who were passing with hymn books in hand along the dusty road, not a stones throw from the two men.

One of these paused a moment and called to Richards:

"Aint ye goin' to church' John? Ye'd better be." and his eyes and a some with astonishment and touched others to the heart.

"My friends," he said, as he unsteadily broke the silence, "I wish to tell you of a man who once had hoped that the words of the text were true. He had done wrong. He had brought misery and ruin to others and came away from the scene of his crime to commence life over again in a place where he was unknown and where he could save souls and bodies. But he has found the untruth of it all for he that saveth a soul may purge his own may apply to Heaven, it does not to man for when they who respect him know, they will shun and bar him. It may be just and right that such should be, for 'Vengeance is the Lord's' and the sinner finds that mercy is His and His only also. Man should not punish and he will not forgive.

One of these paused a moment and called to Richards:

"Aint ye goin' to church' John? Ye'd better be. The minister's goin' to give ye sinners a powerful tearin' up," and the joker joined his companions with a laugh.

Richards gave a far away look at the church on the hill and to his features there seemed to come the strength of a great resolve. His companion moved restlessly as though feeling ill at ease. Just then Ruth appeared at the doorway, looked at them furtively for a moment and noiselessly stepped to the village doctor's side.

"Mr. Richards," she said simply, "forgive me for the confession I made. I will try to be woman enough to conquer it all—I will, indeed. Only don't think the less of me for it—I could not bear that. When I saw how nobly you were—were doing good—beal others pain, I felt that whatever goodness I possessed, belonged to you. It was only to be expected that the unknown child whose life, you had filled with attention and her soul so full of happiness, that if—

pray others to keep from sin, but pursue them with their crime if they fall. He has tried to live over a dead self but it is a dead self at the best and it lies festering in mortification about him. I tell you this, and his voice grew husky, "for I am that man and I am about to return to the East again that I may pay the pensity of my crime and there live over the past in the gaze of those who knew me at the worst. In time, they will forgive—they shall forgive. But you who have accepted me to your hearts as spotless, what will you think; what will you say now that you know the truth!"

There was the utmost astonishment depicted in each face looking bewildered from one to another. There was a dull silence too as though the listeners had been stunned to speechlessness till a girl's voice at Richards' elbow broke over the assembly:

"They will say, Mr. Richards, that you have taught them a greater lesson than could have been handed from the pulpit. They will now know why the tears furrowed your cheeks each Sabbath and how you have paid back happiness to many for misery perhaps caused to some. And they will ask you to remain here to teach them your will and aid them with your strength."

caused to some. And they will ask you to remain here to teach them your will and aid them with your strength."

It was Ruth and she stood by his side half implorating, half defying. Farmer Watkins was the next to advance and he said:

"John, I did you a wrong this evening. I ask your pardon and the honor of grasping your hand. You shan't say the words of the text are untrue."

It was then that the minister asked:

"What was you name before, John?"

"John Edwards."

"Then I have news for you," said the minister in a voice that all could hear, "for I received a letter saying that in the matter of which you have just spoken, all the money which had been missing was known to have been returned from this place and the letter instructed me as pastor of this village to find a John Edwards and to inform him that the charges made against him were withdrawn and papers were enclosed showing release of all proceedings."

A cheer rose up from the assembly. The pastor's words had met with unanimous approval. The village doctor's hands were wrung by many and it was evident that John Richards' past was forgotten and his pardon was complete.

But before dismissing the people, the pastor said as he looked without at the few streaks of dull crimson that yet remained in the sky:

"Each day is a life in itself and as ages rise from days, so lives are shaped from deeds. But the deeds of our past are like days that are ended, for days and deeds die out and new ones spring therefrom."

"Ruth," said Richards that evening, "did you not hesitate when you learned the truth?"

"It oo have a confession to make," she said. "I knew it all along, John. Unbeknown to anyone, I too heard your frenzied confessions when you were ill here that time."

Richards supported his head on his hand and the tears flowed down his cheeks.

"Can John Edwards ever be worthy of you?" he saked.

"Jonn Richards sipported hie heworld in the face togethef."

asked.
"Jonn Richards is," said Ruth. "Raise your head,
John, and we will look the world in the face together."

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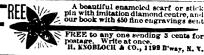
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Profitable Points on Home Dressmaking.

WRITTEN FOR "COMFORT" BY RUTH PARKTON.



S I strolled S I strolled through the larg-H est dry goods store in Boston last week, I saw a pile of some delicate fabric in most exquisite tints, with a card overhanging bearing the words "15 cents a yard." Stopping to look, I found that it was the Yeddo crepe, a cotton crepe that is as pretty in its way as the silk. A pale delicate green piece was simply irresistible and I bought nine yards, sending it to my dressmaker. I went to see her the next day and told her that I wanted it made in the simplest possible style just for home wear. She is an artist in her business and a

glance showed her what could be done with it. "I'll make it so that you can wear it all through September and October and even in the winter for evenings at home. And it will cost you hardly anything yet will be one of the sweetest gowns you have, she said. I told her that that was precisely what I wanted. Well, I went in a day or two for "trying on" and in another day or two it was sent home completed, and I am free to confess that my China silk, French delaine and Japanese silk crepe gowns have faded into insignificance beside the daintiness of that fifteen cent gown! Yet it is so simple that any of the bright girls who read Comfort could easily fashion one for herself, so let me describe and picture it.

First make a princess slip of ordinary cambric or silesia, the same color as the material. Then shirr the material (which is cut in straight breadth for the skirt) on this foundation, adjusting it over the hips while on the figure. The waist is to be cut in two pieces, a front and back, allowing sufficient for full shirring in the front and less in the back. Attach and adjust the waist on the foundation waist in such a way the waist on the foundation waist in such a way that skirt and waist will seem to be one continuous length from throat to hem. Full sleeves are worn, shirred to form a cuff. Now make a short Zouave jacket of green veloutina or velveteen, of a much darker shade than the crepe, without sleeves, and you have a gown that may be worn on very hot days without the jacket, and with the jacket will be comfortable at any season, and is as dainty a costume as any girl need desire. The cost of the whole, if made by a deft-fingered girl in odd hours, will not exceed \$4.00 for a girl of medium size, and of course it should not be worn by any but a rather slender and petite figure.

An additional advantage in such a gown as I have described is that it can be laundered every week if necessary and if carefully treated, look like new every time. It would be equally pretty in pale pink with jacket of green or garnet, yellow with dark blue, or pale blue with dark green, if tints were carefully selected.

But now that September has come, we all need to think of fresh out.oor costumes for the autumn months. One that my dressmaker is now making, is of golden brown cloth with loose blouse shirt of ecru silk and Figara jacket of the cloth. The full sleeves are of the cloth and the deep cuffs of the sik with leaves of golden brown velvet ribbon is fastened in front by a gold clasp. The jacket and the right side of the cloth and the aven of the cloth and the deep cuffs of the sik with leaves of solden brown velvet ribbon is fastened in front by a gold clasp. The jacket and the aven of the cloth and the deep cuffs of the sik with leaves of the cloth and the deep cuffs of the sik with leaves of the cloth and the deep cuffs of the sik with leaves of solden brown cloth with loose bounds and see how the expensed and be reduced and the season and the reduced and be reduced and be reduced and be r that skirt and waist will seem to be one continuous length from throat to hem. Full

nk a and moment and see how the ex

moment and see how the expense can be reduced and the beauty preserved. Four yards of goods 44 inches wide will make the skirt and jacket, and a nice wool material may be bought for a dollar a yard. Lansdowne cloth, an exquisitely soft mixture of silk and wool can be bought in cream tints for \$1.25 a yard and a sit is 46 inches wide only about a yard and a guarter are needed. A golden brown passementerie might be used in place of the velvet applique and is not necessary except on the jacket and sleeves, for which a yard and three-quarters or two yards at most would be ample and can be bought for 75 cents a yard. Here, then, you have material for skirt and Figaro jacket—\$1.50, and linings, say another dollar. Total, \$8.00 for an exquisite gown.

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ends. It takes a good deal of ribbon but gives a charmingly dressy effect at comparatively small cost. If the dress be made with a slight train, so much the prettier. With silvery gray material, pink ribbons are charming; with dark gray, a carefully selected pale blue; with dark green, pale blue or lemon yellow; with red, white or red ribbons.

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enced dressmakers. Ours makes Every One a dressmaker in ten minutes. The regular price of charts alone is \$2.00.

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A GIRL'S GYMNASIUM.

Miss Alicu that a ters were her pupils, agreed to build for her a gymnasium that should embody all her ideas and embrace every desirable feature known to modern physical culture. The large, fine building of whose principal room an illustration is here given, is the an illustration is here given, is the result. It was erected under Miss Allen's supervision and was then leased

was then leased by her.
So short an article as this can not enter very fully into details, but the illustra-tion gives a vivid idea of the ap-pearance pre-sented at any nour of the day during the winter,

pearance presented at any product of the day during the winter, for there is a class for every hour from nine to five. Here you see girls developing the muscles of the leg in the running jump over the vaulting horse. The flying rings are valuable not only as developing the biceps, flexors, extensors and pectoral muscles, but also because familiarity with them gives accuracy of observation, nerve and self-confidence. It is easy to see how, in case of fire, for instance, a girl accustomed to the flying rings might save herself by a daring spring that she would never otherwise think of making. The same is true of the "ladder practice" which trains the muscles of both arms and legs. The race course, or running track, is in the balcony and its use is training to proper breathing. Here the runner is taught to breathe naturally, keeping the mouth shut, and quickly learns by experience that economy of breath is economy of force. Of the many other appliances for developing strength and grace it is not possible to speak now, but should any of you visit Boston next winter, do not fail to see the Allen Gymnasium.

IN A TURKISH BATH.

IN A TURKISH BATH.

Did you ever take a Turkish bath? No? Then let me describe one that I had a few days ago. It was such a hot day! I felt as if in a laundry and in desperation decided to cool off in a Turkish bath. So I went over to the Allen Baths, which are exclusively for women, and are in connection with Miss Allen's Gymnasium, although open to the public (at \$1.50 per bath). Yes, that seems pretty high, but you will think it is worth it when you see the exquisite daintiness of the place. This Boston institution into which no man can enter has the reputation of being the most beautiful and artistic establishment for the purpose in the country. The illustration will show you the 'plunge,' where in a room fifteen feet by thirty the bather can learn to swim, under the direction of an experienced teacher. The illustration cannot show, however, the dainty coloring, the platform of pure white marble guarded by a rail of polished metal, the altar-like niche of snowy hammered marble turning to brilliant reddish brown under the action of the water that tumbles over it into the bath and forms a picturesque contrast to the tall ferns in handsome pots that decorate it—the white, green and Rose Aurora marbles and tiles that give such brilliance to the wonderfully pure water—all this is hardly suggested by the illustration, accurate as it is.

But to begin at the beginning. Entering the pretty office with its sweet-faced attendant,

the wonderfully pure water—all this is hardly suggested by the illustration, accurate as it is.

But to begin at the beginning. Entering the pretty office with its sweet-faced attendant, you write your name and residence in a book, pay your bill and are conducted to a neat little dressing-room with a narrow but comfortable bed, a mirror, a chair and hooks for clothing, on the snowy bed lies a sheet of Turkish toweling and an ordinary sheet. You wrap the latter about you after removing your clothing and a cheery Swedish woman takes you in charge. First you are taken to the Hot Room where you make yourself comfortable in a reclining chair. The room is very dainty, with pure white tile finish and tall white enamel screens with panels of delicate blue and yellow, but you have hardly time to notice that when you begin to gasp. The heat is almost insufferable—you almost start to your feet to leave the room—then you think how foolish that would seem and sit down again. The thermometer is 130 degrees and soon the perspiration comes from every pore. Then you regain your breath and await developments. Five, ten, fifteen minutes pass, as you see by the clock on the window-seat and then your attendant returns and leads you to a second hot room where she turns on the steam, bids you lie down on the marble slab that is at one side and once more leaves you. You have a rubber air pillow under your head and having resigned yourself to the heat feel rather comfortable. You thought that you were perspiring, before. You seem to be simply dissolving,

here. The sheet in which you are wrapped is drenched. As you arrive at the conclusion that "Hulda" (the Swede) will find only your bones on her return, she comes and takes you out of the steam into the massage-room. Everywhere is pure white marble, snowy tiles on wall, and not an atom of wood visible. In the massage or douche room you lie down on another marble slab, throw the enveloping sheet aside and Hulda's deft fingers knead your body from forehead to toes. You will be disgusted to see the little black rolls that rise all over your skin under Hulda's manipulation, but do not worry. That does not indicate any lack of neatness on your part. It is only that the steaming process loosens all the dry and impure skin. After five or ten minutes of Hulda's skillful manipulations she bids you stand on the floor, and turns a douche of warm water upon you. This is soon changed to a "needle spray" which makes you feel as if in a driving hail-storm and almost cuts the sensitive skin. The water gradually grows cooler and winter seems to have come. Finally a cold douche takes your breath away and, half-dazed, you are lightly rubbed dry, given a dry sheet in which to envelop yourself and you return to the dressing-room, where you lie down. Hulda covers you with the "Turkish" sheet and there you lee for an hour if you like. When you dress and go out, you feel as if you could fly! All the heat and discomfort of the day have gone and the lungs breathe free and strong! HE fortunate girls who live in the country are generally trained in a vastly more healthly wore health of the seed of more systematic exercises and to such a degree of excelence did she carry that he rose to see and adopt her methods.

After a few years, however, Miss Allen found her health giving way under the confinement of school life and she regard to cashe shools came to her that he rose shools came to her that her love for and experience did she carry this branch, until the noisidered of comparatively little importance, that teachers from all the other schools are for the dead and spin her methods.

After a few years, however, Miss Allen found her health giving way under the confinement of school life and she resigned her position. The title dea came to her that he rose to see and adopt her methods.

After a few years, however, Miss Allen found her health giving way under the confinement of school life and she resigned her position. The title dea came to her that he rose to read a single large room in a central part of the city and soon young women who felt the need of more systematic exercises than had been attainable, came to her classes. Naturally, these young women in most cases belonged to the wealthier families of the city—poor girls, also for the fashion. As time went on there was need of more systematic exercise than had been attainable, came to her classes. Naturally, the side of the city and soon young women who felt the need of more systematic exercise than had been attainable, came to her classes. Naturally, these young women in most cases belonged to the wealthier families of the city—poor girls, also for the fashion. As time went on there was need of more systematic exercise than had been attainable, came to her classes. Naturally, the confidence in Miss Allen that a few rich men whose daughting that the confidence of the city and soon young women who call the confidence in the city and soon young women who call the confidence in the city and soon young women who call the confidence in the c

and associations. Freemasons "meet upon the level and part upon the square." Friend puzzlers, we meet this month upon the square. Perhaps many young folks and novices have come to be initiated into our "Mystic Order."

Simplicity is the fundamental stone in all science; so it behooves us to choose from the varied ari beautiful forms of puzzles, a block, so simple at perfect, that the veriest tyro may build upon and feet assured of a true foundation. We must put into his hand the carpenter square of our order, that he may try his block to see if it be true.

First, the word-square must have equal sides. In order to determine how many letters will make the proper size block, count how many words are defined in the given puzzle. Then for each definition given, you select a word, of the required number of letters, that will answer its meaning.

If you find when complete, that the series of words are so arranged that they can be read vertically at a horizontally with a like result, you have proven you workmanship true, as regards the standard word-square.

Mysteries.

SQUARES.
No. 335. 1. A Sabine goddess. 2. A Latin people.
3. A proper name. 4. Not able. 5. Needless. 6. To
Dubois, Ills.,
No. 326.

Dubois, Ills.,

No. 336. 1. One who holds land of a superior. 2.
Practical. 3. Magazines. 4. Enticing women. 5.
Revenge. 6. To reduce in dignity.

Oswego, N. Y.,

337. 1. A fruit of the East Indies. 2. Assodrivers.
(French.) 3. A town in Mass. 4. Vesture or covering of wild beasts, (obs.) 5. A plant. 6. One of a sect remarkable for their strictness and abstinence.
Foxboro, Mass.,

CHANCE.
No. 338. 1. Makes sore. 2. A shall European.

sect remarkable for their strictness and abstinence. Foxboro, Mass.,

No. 338. 1. Makes sore. 2. A small European singing bird. 3. To tempt. 4. An organized living being. 5. To recant. 6. Partial inclosures, (Eng.) Colgate, N. Dak.,

No. 339. 1. A little fellow. 2. Kind. 8. A feminine name. 4. One who is ignorant and barbarous. 5. Final close, (obs.) 6. In a real manner.

Poultney, Vt.,

No. 340. 1. Verily, (obs.) 2. To weaken. 3. A district. 4. Tests of virtue. 5. To emit. 6. Sensations. Roseville, Ills.,

No. 331. 1. Blue coral, which grows in the form of a tree. 2. A constellation. 3. The shell or cover of a kind of muscle. 4. More abundant. 5. To uncover, (obs.) 6. Burned on the surface.

Park Side, Ills.,

No. 342. 1. In Mythology, the wife of Saturn and mother of the gods. 2. Farmers. 3. The north wind. 4. To issue. 5. A confederacy. 6. To close the eyes of.

South Acworth, N. H.,

No. 343. 1. Pertaining to anything in its undeveloped state.

2. Drinks made of honey flavored with the juice of mulberries. 3.

Breaks, (obs.) 4. Obliteration.

5. A fine white powder. 6. A fish with a bony skeleton.

Bangor, Pa.,

T. HINKER.

No. 341. 1. Species of Hickories.

2. A shrub of Southern Europe.

3. Greek or Latin proper name.

(Web.) 4. One versed in the Arabic language.

5. Greek or Latin South Acworth, N. H.,

sixty-nine correct solutions. Doc and W. E. Wiatt, tie for third place. Priority of receipt being taken into consideration, Doc wins third place. Sixty-eight solutions each. Hercules comes up fifth with sixty-seven correct solutions, while Ypsic follows closely with sixty-six solutions and wins sixth place.

Solvers to June's Mysteries—Completes:—Doc. Sphinx, Ypsic, Eglantine, Frank and Sweet Lilac, 16, Incompletes:—Chance, P. A. Stime and W. E. Wiatt, 15; Waldemar and Harold, 14; Remardo, Minne A. Polis, Misses Josic and Daisy Bourjal and Hercules, 13; A. F. B. and Essay, 12; N. Igma and Thinker, 11; Arty Fishel and Frank Pratt, 9; Beb, Cowboy, Veritas and Eureka, 8; Aspiro, G. Whizz, Blackeyed Charley and Tyro, 5; So So, 5; Calo, Bill Queer and Madchen, 4; Ignoramus, Solver, Plod and Ajax, 3; Red Elim, 1.

PRIZE WINNERS:—I. Doc. 2. Sphinx. 3. Ypsic. Specials:—I. Beb. 2. Minne A. Polis.

Miss Elizabeth Houck and Mrs. H. J. Bantle:—Your solutions were incorrect. Try again. Harry Blitch:—Your solutions to May were late. Try to send your list earlier. Glad to have you join us. Sweet Lilac:—Thanks for large list of solutions. Will be pleased to hear from you regularly.

Subscribers failing to receive Comport regularly should notify Morse & Co., not me, in order to have the error promptly rectified.

Hoping to receive one or more solutions to the "Mysteries" from every one who reads the "Mysteries" from every one who reads the "Mystic Castle" this month, and that much enjoyment and instruction will be gained therefrom, I remain, Your dear old Mystic Friend, Oldcastle.

No. 317. "The Droper study of manking is man."

closely with sixty-six solutions and wins sixth place.

Honorable mention is due many others who made excellent records, while all who entered did well, breaking their former records at solving the "Intricate Knots from Puzzledom."

The prize for the best article on the "square," is awarded to Miss Lilla W. Sickler, Pala, California, whose very creditable production appears below.

ACCEPTED CONTRIBUTIONS:—Blossom, (Englewood, Ills.,) 15: Nosneb Benson and Tyro two, and Ypsic, Guardineer, Chance, Katie Gallagher, So So and Remardo one each.

Solvers to June's Mysteries—Completes:—Doc.

Nosner Brison. Ridge, Oregon,

No. 345. 1. An engraving. 2. A female who takes care of cattle, (Pare.) 3. Large flat drums used by the Hindoos. 4. The posture of things. 5. Pleasing to the taste. 6. Having the face of a lemur. 7. He leads out this, (Latin.) 8. Hard substances growing on the inside of a horse's knee, among the small bones.

Royal Oak, Md.,

No. 346. Double Square.

Royal Oak, Md.,

No. 346. Double Square.

Across. 1. A carrier. 2. A river of Transylvania.

Reckons, (obs.) 4. Consumers. 5. An English humorous writer. (1713-1788.) 6. The forms which a verb takes by inflection, so as to indicate the time of the action or event signified.

Down. 1. Dost pare. 2. A salt of oleis acid. 3. Corrupt. 4. Certain fresh-water fish of the sucker family 5. Eternal, (Poetic.) 6. Carnivorous animals allied to the civet.

Ardmore, Pa.,

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

1. For the best list, "The Magic Square Puzzle," offered by Oldcastle.)
2. For the second best list, "Champion Fisherman's butfit."

For the third best list, "The Favorite Collection Specials:—Two six-months subscriptions awarded by lot among the rest of the solvers. Contest closes Nov. 1. Solutions, solvers and prize winners in December "Mystic Castle,"

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DOWN THE HOME STRETCH.

HORSE RACING.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE GREAT RACERS AND THE MEN WHO OWN THEM.—HOW A FORTUNE IS MADE IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE.

IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE.

PERHAPS the greatest lovers of the Turf in the world are our own countrymen, and the annals of racing are studded both in this country and abroad with the brilliant victories of our own native horses, and the votaries of the sport seem to be daily growing in numbers. P. Lorillard, the creator and owner of Tuxedo, the Four Hundred's exclusive country place, has once more re-entered the scene after an absence of several years. J. B. Haggin, the great California millionaire and Senator Stanford of the same State, are equally well known as owners and breeders of horses. An animal that brings \$150,000.00 is surely "worth her weight in gold," as the saying is, and that is the price recently paid by Mr. J. M. Forbes of Boston for his latest equine acquisition.

The crowds that daily gather round the Grand Stand are the most enthusianstic sportsmen that exist. The Base Ball Crank and the Bicycle Crank are mild in comparison. Forty thousand necks were eagerly stretched to witness Judge Morrow come down the home stretch at the last Brooklyn Handicap, and forty thousand voices roared themselves hoarse cheering the victorious winner. In a fraction less than two minutes the owner of Judge Morrow earned twenty-five thousand dollars in stakes, and all around him were men who had backed the plucky horse, and were winners of from five to fifty thousand dollars. When such princely sums are won and lost almost in the twinkling of an eye, it is small wonder that the sport proves of such absorbing interest, and that the men and horses become of national celebrity.

It is a fact always to be deplored in this connection that the curse of gambling seems inseparably con-

that the sport proves of such absorbing interest, and that the men and horses become of national celebrity.

It is a fact always to be deplored in this connection that the curse of gambling seems inseparably connected with the race track. It is a matter that has been of deep concern to those whose desires have always been to advance the sport beyond the influence of the pool room and the bucket shop. But no remedy has yet been found. The main course of complaint arises from the fact that the money lost in pool rooms invariably comes from the pockets of young men who can ill afford to lose it, and sometimes the papers are called upon to record a defalcation as a result. This loss of reputation is one of the darkest shadows of the track, and though there are warning voices at every post, yet the strange fascination of the pool room groves irresistible, and every season shows its victims. But the opposition to the pool room gathers strength every year, and perhaps it will eventually succeed in removing this evil from what is undoubtedly a mannly and altogether vigorous sport.

On the day of an event like the "Suburban" the crowd that presses to the scene of

ban" the crowd that presses to the scene of action is something wonderful. They go in all sorts of weather and in all sorts of conveyances. The million aire jostles the bell boy, and the district messenger elbows the visiting states man. Ladies, too, are there in all the gorgeousness.

the visiting states man. Ladies, too, are there in all the gorgeousness of spring toilets, and all over the enclosure the scene is one of suppressed excitement. From forty to fifty thousand people are crowding past the grand stand, elbowing their way to the book makers, and the starter is quietly taking his place by the flag pole. A few unimportant races are run off, and at last comes the great event of the day, the crowning one of the season—the Suburban Handicap. For months preceding, men have been placing sums of money on their favorites, and some, as the horses line up to the starter, face ruin or great fortune. It is an exciting moment. Down to the starting pole come the horses in a bunch. But the line is badly broken and the signal is withheld. As the horses straggle back into position, everyone has a chance to get another view of the horse which means so much to him in the event of success or failure. Longstreet has been a great pacer and is heavily backed; but the track is heavy and Longstreet needs a dry one. But he still leads the field in betting. Judge Morrow steps lightly and never looked so sleek or so shiny. The trial performances of the Judge have revealed unexpected possibilities and the handsome animal is greeted with a burst of cheers. Rarus, Tenny, Tea Tray, Salvador, The Bard, and other famous racers are in the string, and as they prance around the starting post excitement is at fever heat.

Down the track come the horses this time in good form. The flag drops and away they go amid a mighty yell from the dense mass of humanity that surge around the border of the track. The string lengthens and the horses exacter. Now Longstreet leads, now Judge Morrow, now Prince Russell. Judge Morrow seems to be out of it. The home stretch is reached and it is anybody's race yet. Will it be Longstreet? He seems to hold out well. Will it be Longstreet? He seems to hold out well. Will it be Longstreet? He seems to hold out well. Will it be Longstreet? He seems to hold out of the bunch like a rocket and lands

most successful on record, and the sport seems to be daily growing more popular, if that is at all possible.

PLUM DUFF.

"Plum Duff" is the great holiday dish of the sailors, and no real feast is considered perfect without it.
There are many traditions respecting the origin of the name, but this is very likely the true one: Way back in the history of the navy an English brig in back in the history of the navy an English brig in the South Pacific was caught in a series of awful hurricanes. Those on board were trying to reach a port In time to spend Christmas, but that happy holiday found them Il somewhere off the Navigator Islands. Worst o. II, on the second day of the storm they had shipped a sea that tore loose a hen-coop containing a few live chickens, intended for a royal dinner, and which the cook had carefully lashed to stanchions just aft of the galley. When he saw the Christmas dinner floating in the lee scuppers and in minimer danger of going overboard, he made a gallant change down the slippery, sloping deck to recover the both, at that moment a great green wall of water rose high over the bulwarks, broke with resistless fury on the very spot where he stood, and when it subsided, cook and chickens had disappeared. This unfortunate accident left the crew not only with-

out a Christmas dinner but without any one to prepare an ordinary meal. The sailors were heartily sick of 'hard tack' and 'salt horse' and they remembered with much longing the famous Plum Pudding of Merrie England. So they determined that the loss of the cook should not spoil their holiday, and therefore drew lots as to who should venture the preparation of a pudding, The choice fell on the Boatswain's Mate, a brawny son of the Emerald Isle. This individual was lucky enough to rake out an old cook-book from some mysterious nook or corner of the galley. This he solemnly pored over in search of something promising, but could find hardly any dish described he dared to try, either from lack of the materials or want of skill. 'Twas slow work, as he was not any too well educated, but at last he settled upon something. The recipe commenced 'Make a stiff dough' etc. When the cook reached the word dough he said to himself, "If r-o-u-g-h spells ruf, dough ought to be duff." So he concected the pudding in the highest style of the art, putting in some splendid Malaga raisins one of the crew by great good luck had found stowed away in his sea-chest, and served it out, c vered with a generous quantity of burning rum. It was simply great! The sailors haile it with delight and appreciation. "What d'ye call it?" said they. "Plum Duff," said the proud cook. So according to this account this English dish is Irish, after all.

An Irishman who was in Paris went to call on a friend living there, and on ringing the bell the door was opened by a maid. The Irishman had some knowledge of French, and so asked "Is Mr. So-andso in?" in that language. It happened, however, that the girl spoke English well, so she said, "Ah, you are English." "How did yez foind that out," he replied in the richest Tipperary brogue. "Oh," she said, "you are Irish." "Now how is this," returned the man, "be me Frinch I'm English, and be me English I'm Irish."

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THE TOBACCO HABIT.

Although a great many persons enjoy life and fat up when victims of the tobacco habit, there are millions who would give all the worlds good they have in stock if they could but rid themselves of this curse of hawking, spitting and smoking. M. N. Tamer writes that he was for thirty years a slave to tobacco and it simply ruined his health. John Slinn a prominent business man in Fall River, Mass., said his Heart got into the state that physicians called Tobacco Heart and the continual use of tobacco for



many years so upset his general health also that he could not eat, sleep or work. Yet both of these and at housands of others found immediate relief and a permanent cure by simply taking one tablet of Oxien after each meal. As it will not cost our readers anything to try this wonderful but harmless remedy we advise all to send at once to The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, and get free samples which they now send to all troubled in this manner. We have positive proof of the great good it is doing. A Dark Inheritance.

Is the name of one of the most popular and fastest selling Novels now published, it is by Mary Cecil Hay, author of "Back to The Old Home," "A Wicked Girl," ect., ect. We are preparing special feature for October and November numbers of Comport and will send this free to all enclosing six cents for two months trial subscriptions. We also send the thrilling story of "Black Pietro" and other articles of interest free, if you order at once. Address The Publishers of Comport, Augusta, Maine, and remember you will get the first installment of the "Nutshell Story Club" in the October issue.

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THE EYE, Glen's Falls, N. Y. Be a Friend to You. For 4c. in stamps, I will send a complete copy (words and music) of this beautiful home song, together with my musical catalogue. WM. ADRIAN SMITH, 320 W, 126th St., N. Y.

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Watch Chain, 1 Ring, Agent's New Style Sample Book &
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National III. Magazine, No. 19 Vashington, D. C.



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A FREE TRIP TO THE WORLD'S FAIR.
The Chicago Tribune says that Jay Dwiggins & Co., with offices at 480 Chamber of Commerce, Chicago, have just offered to stand the round trip railroad and sleeping or parlor car fares, meals en route and three days hotel bill at Chicago for 250 people to see the Dedication of the World's Fair, Oct. 19 to 21, 1892, or to the Fair itself in 1893. The firm sends particulars free to all inquirers.

A BIRTHDAY PRESENT.

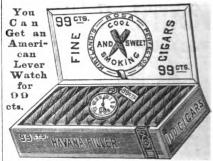
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Are you sick or ailing, broken down or worn out? We give \$100,00 in cash for any case we fail to cure if directions are followed. Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Constipation, Liver Complaint, Sick Headache, Nervous Debility and even Consumption disappear like dew before the morning sun under the marvelous effects of our harmless though unfailing remedy. You run no risk, as we will gladly send you a sample package free, postpaid. Write to-day and be cured.

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ELGIN OR WALTHAM
Warranted 20 Years.
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Antible with of EVILY Elgin or wind and stem set, beautifully engraved and attem set, beautifully engraved and atted with GENIFE Elgin or WALTHAM solid nickel works, FULL
JEWILED top plate, double jewied expansion balance, patent hair spring, safety prinons, polithed enamed dish, patent dust band and absolutely dust proof. Warranted to wear and hold ties color, and keep correct time for 20 years. Satisfaction guaranteed or more yearanded. Real value, \$25.00.
Senty Co. D. subject to full example and the proof. Warranted to wear and hold ties color, and keep correct time for 20 years. Satisfaction guaranteed or more yearanded. Real value, \$25.00. QUEEN CITY WATCH CO



WE WILL POSITIVELY send a genuine ican lever Watch, which will run and keep 5 for 99 cts. to introduce at once into every town, Special Brand of Cigars. For 99 cents, we thing the next 600 days any person (either sex) one of



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test a Positive Cure for Nervousness and all Similar seases. So great is our faith in our Specific, we ill send One Full Month's Medicine and much aluable Information FREE. G. M. CO., 835 Broadway, New York City.

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FORTHIRTY DAYS—Send us at once a photograph or a tintype of yourself, or any member of your family, living or dead, and we will make for you one of our finest \$25.00 life-size CRAYON PORTRAITS absolutely your vicinity. Put your name and address back of photo, and send same to Tanquerev Portrait Society, 741 DeKalb Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. References: Rev. T. DeWitt Talmadge all newspaper publishers, Banks, and Express Companies of New York and Brooklyn.

THE FAVORITE COLLECTION OF SONGS. Seventy-two Popular Songs,



Complete and Unabridged, FULL SHEET MUSIC SIZE, with

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The Songs contained in this book are in every way equal to regular sheet music, being full sheet music size, with large type, and well printed from new plates, with handsomely engraved covers, and indexed so that any song each be found instantly.

with large type, and well printed from new plates, with handsomely engraved covers, and indexed so that any song can be found instantly.

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A Year Ago,
All Among the Summer As I'd Nothing Else to Bachelor's Hall, Do, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capliform of the Sunset I Whistle and Walt for Katle, Jack's Fare.

Well, Jenny in the Orchard, 1. Ma ry turned round, Strangers Yet, That is Love, That Is Love, That Is Blue Eyes, Trears filled her eyes, The Down Morn, Little Butter.

Curb Song, Little Butter, Cup's Song, Love that Sumbers, Mother, Watch the Little Feet, Many Years

Mary and John, Naney Lee.

With large type, and well printed from new plates, with handsomely engraved covers, and indexed so that any song can be found instantly.

Contact, Comrades, Ernder and Douglas, Tender and Douglas, Tender and Down Well the Warling Lindens, Down Well the Warling Lindens, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pive O'lock in the Morning, Blue Eyes, Tree, Down Went the Capbream Faces, Pi Rest,
The Little Fisher Maiden,
The Old Barn
Gate,
The Old Cot-Mary and John, Nancy Lee, Not Yet, No, Sir!

the above. THE FAVORITE COLLECTION OF SOMOS will be sent to at one sending 30 cents for a 6 months subscription to Co Fort. Perfect satisfaction gas anteed or money refunded.

PUBLISHERS OF COMFORT, Augusta, Maine NERVOUS by mail successfully Prescription sent free. Address, L. S. FRANKLIN, Music dealer, Marshall, Mich.

the MARVELOUS and UNFAILING French Preparation, CALTHOS FREE by MAIL.

ee that CALTHOS will HEALTH, STRENGTH AND VIGOR.

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Y DEAR YOUNG FOLKS:
You will no doubt be surprised to find me in charge of this column, where you have been accustomed to think of Aunt Minerva as the presiding genius. But she has so much work on her hands just at present that she has asked me to conduct the column this month, and if she should continue to be so busy, perhaps I may take it permanently in future. I hope that no one will be disappointed, and let all the boys and girls feel that their Uncle Josephus takes just as much interest in their letters, and is just as glad to hear from them, as ever Aunt Minerva could be.

Auntile has handed me the letters, and I find some very interesting ones. First we will hear from a little fellow away down in Texas.

"I am a little boy 5 years old. We came here from a swell when you get older as you do now. It is a swell when you get older as you do now. It is a swell when you get older as you do now. It is a swell when you get older as you do now. It is a swell when you get older as you do now. It is a swell when you get older as you do now. It is a swell when you get older as you do now. It is a swell when you get older as you do now. It is a swell when you get older as you do now. It is a swell when you get older as you do now.

the fellow away down in Texas.

"I am a little boy 5 years old. We came here from Tenn. last fall. The great broad, level prairies, covered with waving grain and grass, are a sight beautiful to behold. There are lots of mule-eared rabbits here, and they were quite a curiosity to me at first. There is no large game here. I live 12 miles from the city of Dallas. I went here to the Fair last fall, and saw many strange and pretty things to amuse both young and old people. I have a pup named Carlo, and a pet pigeon.

EDWARD SMITH, Mesquite, Dallas Co., Tex."

Next comes an older cousin.

Next comes an older cousin.

Next comes an older cousin.

"I have just been reading the letters from the dear Shut-Ins, and I think it would be a good idea for the cousins to club together and buy something for them. If each one would give a little, we could get a pretty book for some of them at Christmas, and make them very happy. What do you think of this, cousins? I will give something myself. Will you all write to me? I am 15 years old.

EDITH HILL, Box 113, Moss Point, Miss."

I think that is a good idea. Edith, and wish that

I think that is a good idea, Edith, and wish that the young folks could get in the way of doing more for the Shut-Ins. I am sure that it would please Aunt Minerva very much, and if you should wish to do anything such as Edith speaks of, you had better write to Auntie about it, and let her keep the money.

write to Auntie about it, and let her keep the money.

"In July Comport Auntie asked us to tell about our collections. I have specimens from 25 States, 16 from Canada, a piece of olive wood which was cut near Jerusalem, donated by Dr. Talmage, a horned toad, sea shells, Indian arrow heads, sea fern, petrified wood, deer horns, eye stones, and a variety of other things. Will the cousins help me to get something from every State for my cabinet? I will pay postage.

WILLS. DUNCAN,
Box 76, Stonington, Ills."

"One of the cousins says, how many have ever seen a stone quarry? I live immediately in the centre of the great granite belt of N. C. It is about 15 miles long and over a mile wide. We see men working here in the quarries, some dressing curbing, some making Belgian blocks, others making rubble stone thasting out fough granite, hauling, loading cars to be sent to various cities, where the stone is used in paving and macadamizing the streets. The hard, linty vieces are used for millstones to grind corn and wheat.

CHARLOTTE E. WYATT,
Faith, Rowan Co., N. C."

There is a great stone quarry not many miles from my home, where enormous blocks of granite are cut for pedestals, monuments, and very beautiful statues, which are sent all over the U. S. A statue of Capt. Hennessey, who was killed in New Orleans by the Italians, has lately been made there.

"I am a boy 12 years old, and my birthday is Dec.

"I am a boy 12 years old, and my birthday is Dec. 20. We live in a valley with a high range of mouncians on each side. This is a mining camp, and the mines are about 6 miles from where I live. My father is interested in the mines, and I often go there with him. Some of them produce ore which is very rich



NO EAR FOR MUSIC. You can talk about your trombon Your trumpet, flute and fife, You can play upon a flageolet The balance of your life, Or blow from now till doomsday, On a clarionet or horn, But it can't come up to blowing On a steaming ear of corn. E. L. S.

in gold and silver. There are two very high mountain peaks, one called Mt. Belknap and the other Mt. Baldy; in winter they are both covered with deep snow. A daily stage runs from this place to the terminus of the R. R., which is 40 miles from here. I would like to correspond with some of the cousins. DEWITT C. TATE, Jr., Marysville, Piute Co., Utah."

After reading a letter from so far away, I take up next one from a Maine girl, who lives almost under the shadow of COMFORT, so to speak.

"I live in Manchester, about 4 miles out of Augusta, on a farm of 65 acres; it is called the prettiest place on the road. We keep ducks, geese, hens, cattle and horses. I ride horseback sometimes. I am getting up a geological collection. Would like to correspond with a few Western cousins about 17 years old.

ALICE R. BURNHAM, Augusta, Maine."

Here is a letter from the granite regions of another State, N. H.

74

250

State, N. H.

"I live in the beautiful town of Marlboro. It is especially noted for its extensive granite quarry, which is one of the best in the State; between two and three hundred men are employed during the summer. I have taken Comfort several years, and I think it is

Folks' page; some letters are very interesting.

"I am a little girl 8 years old. I do not have much time to write, because after school nights I have to go to the post-offlee for papa, he keeps store and does not have much time to go. Saturday I have not much leisure. I help mama; I wash dishes and bring water, and go to see grandma and change papers with her. We have a big Maltese cat; it is such a good cat, and knows so much. I have a bisque doll; its eyes will open and shut. I have made it quite a few dresses and also hemmed a fine handkerchief, and am now piecing a quilt.

CARBEEL RYDER, Eagle Grove, Iowa."

I hope yon will like to sew and to help mama just as well when you get older as you do now. It is a good plan to keep busy always; one is much more likely to be happy and contented.
"I would like to say a few words about stamp collecting. The first postage stamp was introduced into Great Britain, in 1840, by Sir Rowland Hill. He was not what might be called an original inventor. The idea which he had put into practical form, was first heard of in Sardinia, in 1815, when engraved labels with gummed backs were first used. The order in which the various nations adopted the new system inaugurated by Great Britain, was a curious one.

them a package of good reading.

IVAN M. WALDRON, Box 32, Michie, Mich."

"Here I am again, and will tell a little about myself, as last time I told of the place where I live. I was born in Hudson, Wisc., in 1877 and have lived in a hotel nearly all my life, as my father is a cook and cooks at large hotels most of the time. But at present he has a lunch counter in a saloon here in Phillips, and I have to work there. Although I do work in a saloon, I never use, liquor, tobacco, or profane language; but I like to read novels. I do not care for adventures or detective stories.

RUF J. FRIEDMAN, Phillips, Wisc."

Be sure to stick to your resolution not to use liquor or tobacco, my boy, and don't read too many novels, for I am afraid that will make a "girl-boy" out of you.

"I am a farmer boy 16 years old, and live on a farm in southern Washington. I go to school in winter, and help with the work in summer. We raise fruit, such as plums, pears, apples, peaches, quinces and grape. With the blackberries, strawberries, and all the rest of the minor fruits, this is a great fruit country. My cousin who is staying with us takes COMFORT, and we enjoy it so much. I wish some of the cousins would write to me, a lonely farmer boy, JACK EVERTON, Tucker, Cowlitz Co., Wash."

Bidding you all good-bye for this time, I am your affections to the staying with the safections to the surfections to the surfections to the staying with some of the cousins would write to me, a lonely farmer boy, JACK EVERTON, Tucker, Cowlitz Co., Wash."

Bidding you all good-bye for this time, I am your affectionate, Uncle Josephus.

NOBLE THOUGHTS.

Point thy tongue on the anvil of truth .- Pin-

ar.
There lies more faith in honest doubt,
Believe me, than in half the creeds.
—Tennyson.

The cord that binds too tightly snaps itself .-

To be trusted is a greater compliment than to be loved.—George Macdonald. "Truth can be outraged by silence quite as cruelly as by speech."

Emerson said of Lincoln: His heart was as great as the world, but there was no room in it for the memory of a wrong.

VISIT YOUR PARENTS.

If you live in the same place, let your steps be-if possible daily-familiar in the old home; if you are miles-many miles-away, make it a

place, each issuing a series of stamps in 1843. Russia followed in 1845. The U. S. did nothing until two years later. The U. S. has about 1990 varieties. The St. Louis 20c., black, 1845, is worth \$500.00, and many others are worth as much. If any of the cousins will send me some stamps for my collection, I will send them a package of good reading.

IVAN M. WALDRON, Box 32, Michie, Mich." your father or mother is gone, you will not think them much, those hours of travel, which bore you to the loved one's side.

- OXIEN -

THE WONDERFUL FOOD FOR THE NERVES.

NATURAL NERVE NOURISHMENT, FROM NATURE'S FOUNTAINS OF NUTRITION."

Gives Giant Strength, Health and Vigor to young and old, after everything else has failed.

OXIEN is a NATURAL FOOD FOR THE NERVES, BLOOD, AND BRAIN—not a stimulant. It produces real, not artificial, strength; and its effects are lasting, not temporary. It gives vitality and vigor to the entire system, and promotes healthy action of all the organs. It is unlike anything ever discovered, and nothing equals it as a relief and cure for NervousProstration, Starved Nerves, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Constipation, and other stomach disorders, Bronchitis, Colds, Coughs, Catarrhal Affections, Palpitation of the Heart, Kidney and Liver Diseases, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Scrofula, Defect in Hearing, Smell, or Taste, Sick-headache, General Debility, Chills and Fever, Malarial Troubles, Irregularity, and La Grippe.

Many thousands have found that OXIEN restores lost Strength, Health, and Hope, and their written testimony is oxen to public inspection at the office of the undersigned.

Price One Dollar for Giant Boxes.

Price One Dollar for Giant Boxes. Small Boxes, thirty-five cents each.

A BIG OFFER MINITE: If you bills that we send, we will give you a 50c. cert. and send it in advance with samples and bills. This will trouble you about one minute, and then if you want to work on salary at \$50 or \$100 per month, let us know. We pay in advance. GIANT OXIE CO., 123 Willow St., Augusta. Me.

From North, South, East and West.

PENNSYLVANIA, Saluvia, Fulton Co.—Robert Sipes says; Enclosed find ten dollars for Oxien. I was crippled with rheumatism for several years, and suffered from other ailments. Oxien cured me, and other people want it because of the wonders it has done. It goes faster than I can get it.

ILLINOIS, New Douglas.—Miss Belle McPherson writes: I suffered a great deal the past years of my life with catarrh and neuralgia. I used different medicines without relief until I tried Oxien and that cured me. The wonderful Food for the Nerves is all you claim, and I can also say that it is a great remedy.

NEW YORK, De Ruyter.—Mrs. William Sterling. "I can truly say that Oxien has benefited me more than anything I have ever tried. For more than two years I have not been able to bend over to pick up anything from the floor, my back was so stiff, and it was almost more than I could do to get around. I shall always give Oxien the loudest praise."

ILLINOIS, Hopedale.—John Hanning. "I have used Oxien and will tell the public that it is just what it is represented to be. It works like magic. For nervous debility and strengthening the body it cannot be beaten. I have bought medicines for forty years but have never yet got hold of a remedy that does the work as Oxien does. It ought to be in every household.

TENNESSEE, Stewarts Ferry.—Mrs. Betty Seaborn writes: I have tested your excellent Food for the Nerves and so has my mother, Mrs. Sarah Hager, who is 72 years old, and has been afflicted for years with weak back and dyspepsia. It cured her back and she can eat anything and rests well at night. I have recommended Oxien to neighbor and they all like it.

NORTH CAROLINA, Leggett.—Caroline H. Hedgpeth says: Oxien has done me more good than any doctor's medicine I ever tried.

MISSISSIPPI, Aberdeen.—Sarah M. Adams. "I received the Giant box of Oxie all right and think it is wonderful. It is more beneficial to me than anything I have ever taken, and I begin to feel all right again.

ALABAMA, Chunchula.—O. P. Ingersoll says: "I enclose one dollar, for which please send me a Glant box of Oxic. I think it is worth its weight in gold and I would not be without it."

ARKANSAS, Galloway.—C. C. Naylor. "My little girl has had spasms for three months and Oxien stopped them."

VERMONT. Pawlet, Rutland Co.—Mrs. Geo. E. Towslee writes: enclosed find one dollar for a Giant box of that wonderful Food for the Nerves. I cannot say too much in its praise. My father, who will be seventy years old next July (1892) was troubled with rheumatism for years. Since using Oxien he is free from all rheumatic pains, sleeps well and has a good appetite.

MAINE. Norway P. O.-A. T. Crocker says: Enclosed find five dollars for which send me Oxien. I will act as agent. I have given it a good trial and can praise it highly

NEBRASKA, Palmer.—C. B. McCormick writes: Enclosed please find money order for seven dollars for which send me Oxien. My wife tried all kinds of medicines but got no help until she took your wonderful Food for the Nerves. It is doing wonders.

CALIFORNIA, French Gulch, Shasta Co.—Mrs. Mary A. Wheeler writes: I was a complete nervous wreck. Oxien did me more good than anything I ever took. It also proved very beneficial in my family for La Grippe.

NEVADA, Panaca, Lincoln Co.—Mrs. Mary Gentry writes: Please send me another box of Oxien for enclosed one dollar. The wonderful Nerve Food is curing my little girl of St. Vitus' Dance. She is ten years old, and was also troubled with indigestion.

SOUTH DAKOTA, Holabird.—Henry A. Parker encloses express order for five dollars for Oxien and says: Truly it is a Nerve Food. It is doing my rheumatism lots of good, besides greatly benefiting my nervous system.

UTAH, Beaver City.-Geo. E. Owen says: I enclose six dollars for Oxien I have used it myself and have found it good for nervousness, severe colds and

CALIFORNIA. Cottonwood.—Mrs. A. A. Rice. "Enclosed find money order for three dollars for three Giant boxes of Oxien. One is for myself, one for the ablest physician in our town, who desires the third box for a young lady suffering from nervous prostration. It has so benefited and built us all up so much that the doctor cannot help recommending it."

GEORGIA, Rocky Ford.—Thomas H. Stringer. I have received the Oxien I ordered before, and it is a Godsend to the world. Enclosed find one dollar for which please send me another Giant box.

LOUISIANA, Ruston.—W. S. Johnson. I enclose Post Office order for two dollars for which please send me two boxes of Oxien. I have used one box and find it is better suited to my case than anything I have ever used. Success to your wonderful Food for the Nerves.

VIRGINIA, Old Town.—James Williams. Enclosed find six dollars for which please send me Oxien. All I have already sold has given satisfaction and the parties are now wanting more as soon as I can get it.

IOWA, Forest City.—Mrs. Arda J. Spicer. A party here was so bad with rheumatism that he could not lie in bed. He was in great pain, and threatened with rheumatism of the heart. After taking three boxes of Oxien he was cured. He said "It is just the thing for rheumatism."

TEXAS. Malakoff.—James M. Mitcham. Enclosed find ten dollars for which please send another lot of Oxien. I find that it is good for La Grippe, also cough

MISSOURI, Hantville.— S. E. A. Ramsey. Enclosed find five dollars for Oxien. Please send by return mail. A lady about four miles from here, with an infant two weeks old, had taken cold and was about to die. This was a good chance to try your wonderful Food for the Nerves. I gave her Oxien every two hours. The next day she was easy and not only up again, but well and doing her work. I have sold it to others with the same result.

WASHINGTON, Block House.—Mrs. N. A. Gilman writes: Enclosed find five dollars for your wonderful Food for the Nerves. There is a great demand for it here. One woman who had been confined to her bed for fifteen weeks was cured by one box of Oxien.

The Solemn Truth from Living Witnesses.

KANSAS DOCTORS DUMFOUNDED.—W. H. Lowe, Americus, Kansas, writes that his father was confined to his bed for months, completely broken down. When all the doctors had given him up and said he could not live, he tried Oxien. After taking one dozen tablets he was enabled to get up, walk about and enjoy himself. Its marvellous effect stirred up the neighbors, friends and whole town. Other people whose doctors had given them up also used Oxien and pronounce it the most powerful and strengthening food in existence.

NERVOUS PROSTRATION TWENTY YEARS.—Mrs. E. A. D. Whitney, Fisher Street, Peoria. Ill., says: For the last twenty years I suffered from nervous prostration, neuralgia—and heart failure at times—and I was rarely ever free from pains and ills caused by weak nerves until I tried the flwonderful Food for the Nerves. Oxien. Its effects have been marvellous. I have not had a return of nervous headache since I began using it, but am perfectly well. I recommend Oxien to all those suffering from nervous weakness. It has been a blessing to me, and many of my friends have also been restored to health by it.

OHIO DOCTORS COULD DO NOTHING. — Mrs. John Houglan, Sharon Centre, Ohio, writes that her husband was subject to fits for a long time and that the doctors could do nothing to help him. With the use of Oxien the attacks ceased and ever since taking this wonderful Food for the Nerves he has had no sign of his old trouble.

CURED AT THE AGE OF FIFTY-TWO.— Mrs. Ellen E. S. Phillips, St. Augustine, Fla., age fifty-two, was for years a great sufferer from nervous prostration; had no appetite; could not sleep; looked miserable and would start at the least sound. Just to sweep the hall obliged her to rest several hours. The use of Oxien improved her so much, she says, that she now can sweep, scrub, work in the garden and keep on the go all the time. "I am well and strong again, and several others to whom I have given this wonderful Food for the Nerves have all experienced the same improvement."

MASSACHUSETTS DOCTORS FAILED.—Mr. John Slinn, General Agent Vermont Life Insurance Co., writes: A year ago I was so sick a man that my life was at one time dispaired of. My pulse was so irregular as to cause me the greatest distress and alarm. My stomach was so out of order that almost everything I ate distressed me. I derived benefit from neither the local or Boston Doctors, and grew constantly worse. At this time my attention was called to Oxien and after using one Giant box I was a perfectly well man, free from nervousness, my pulse as strong and regular as twenty years ago, and I can eat a square meal of any kind of food without feeling the slightest distress. I have not a bodily ache or pain. I consider it a simple duty fo say that Oxien brought me new strength and new life, and that over one hundred cases have come to my notice where Oxien has proved itself the most wonderful Food for the Nerves and health-giving remedy in existence. MASSACHUSETTS DOCTORS FAILED.—Mr. John Slinn, General Agent Vermont Life Insurance Co., writes: A year ago I was so sick a man

PRAISE FROM THE PACIFIC COAST.—A. F. Evick, The Dalles, Oregon, writes: The best thing I ever saw to help sick people is Oxien. It is truly a wonderful cure for backache, bad colds, La Grippe, headache and other diseases. One lady who had suffered from serious cold and La Grippe for a long time, and had not slept for a week, was restored by a few of the Oxien tablets.

WAS UNABLE TO STAND ON HIS LEGS.—P. O. Oison, Vine Street, Paterson, N. J., reports: My daughter's little boy was so weak for a long time that he was not able to stand on his legs. Oxien made him strong, healthy and happy, and he can run across the floor like lightning. This wonderful Food for the Nerves also relieved me of a terrible catarrh and heart trouble, from which I had suffered for years.

WOULD HAVE BEEN DEAD.—Mrs. William W. Hinckley, High-lands. Colo.: "I was afflicted with the worst stomach trouble I ever knew of, and thought at times I had cancer of the stomach. Oxien cured me and all my friends agree in saying that my cure was truly wonderful. Others here who have tried it for similar complaints have derived the same happy results, and a bedridden con-sumptive, after taking three boxes of Oxien, came to my house and told me that she knew she would have been dead were it not for this wonderful food."

COULDN'T WALK—NO APPETITE—COULDN'T SLEEP.— Mr. M. Logsdon, San Bernardino, Cal. sends thirty dollars for Oxien and says: "This wonderful Food for the Nerves cured my wife, who was sick for five years. Three small boxes and two large ones made her well and stout and she is a first-class walking advertisement. It also cured me of La Grippe and many other people waising advertisement. It also cured me of La Grippe and many other people here, among them a lady who was sick with kidney trouble—could not walk, had no appetite, and was so nervous that she could not sleep at night. I sold the fifteen dollar lot I bought of you in three days. I first sell the food to folks who have been sick a long time, and as they get well they boom the wonderful food among others."

THOUGHT SHE MUST DIE.—Julia M. Perry, Marysburg, Minn. writes: I was siek in bed with heart aliment and other troubles so common to my sex. I thought I could not live, so great was the distress in my back and stomach. Nothing did me any good until I took Oxien. The very first dose helped me. You can use this testimony if you choose.

MORE GOOD THAN FOUR DOCTORS.—Mahala M. Remsberg, Middletown, Md. writes: The best results have followed the use of Oxien, the wonderful Food for the Nerves. My case was a bad one and one box of Oxien did me more good than four doctors.

AFFLICTED FOR SEVEN YEARS.—Mrs. Jethro Sharpe, Worden, Ills. "I have used one Glant box of Oxlen and am sure it has done me more good AFFLICTED FOR SEVEN YEARS.— Mrs. Jethro Sharpe, Worden, Ills. "I have used one Giant box of Oxlen and am sure it has done me more good than all medicines. Our little girl has been afflicted with a nervous disorder for seven years. Since using Oxien her mind is better and she is improving fast. I myself have been in the hands of doctors for the past two years, but they could do me no good. Thank God! I am now better and do not get tired while trying to work, and I give Oxlen the praise due it for what it has done.

NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS WASTED.—W. W. Fleming, Dundee, Michigan, writes: "I had a paralytic stroke January, 1891, and lost the use of my right side. I spent nearly nine hundred dollars for electric belts and everything could hear of, but got no help from them. Oxien is the only thing that did me any good and it has done wonders for me. This is my first trial at writing since I was taken sick.

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THE man who placed a brass band around a bulldog's neck because he believed "music hath charms to soothe the savage breast,"



hadn't seen enough of this sinful world. If he had ever loaned his ear to a Chinese Concert he would have opened his eyes to the fact that asasoothing syrup the Heathen's Hullabaloo is a dead failure and that for riot-inciting noises John comes pretty near holding the fort against the world.

It is only when the gay, untutored citizen of Bagdad turns himself loose amid the perfumes of Arabia that all other noises become tonguetied, and John Chinaman's distinguished racket is squelched, sat upon and put to sleep, and the Fourth of July racket of the North American small boy becomes a slumbering symphony. One of the curious superstitions of the mahometans is the belief that eclipses are caused by a huge evil spirit who endeavors to make off with the obscured planet; and the blood-curdling noises they inaugurate on such occasions is well calculated to cause the Old Harry himself to drop it and scoot. The total population



gathers on the flat house-tops and with the firing of guns, beating tinware, banging gongs, pounding sheepskin, shrieking and bawling, frighten any unfortunate European, who may happen to be around, into the belief that a general massacre is occurring. Their performance sounds like fricasseed thunder, lightning, railroad whistling, Wagner's music and the notes of the Laughing Jackass, all rolled together and ladled out by nine-jointed steam calliopes. Our illustration is copied from a photograph on the wall of the writer's memory.

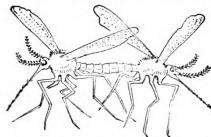
Curiously enough the natives call this planet-pocketing evil spirit "Jin," and speculating people will doubtless wonder whether it is any relative of our Gin.

PEOPLE who dote on poetry will hail with pleasure the coming of the "Melancholy days, the saddest of the year," when the lamentations of the fatality poet will again ring through the land, with

Bridget, we shall always miss you, And we'll miss your sunny smile, Had the oil-can been still larger, You'd have gone about a mile.

not ween for little Johnny He is in the golden camp, Quickly he was hoisted skyward, By the non-explosive lamp.

Now that Massachusetts is going to send a real live



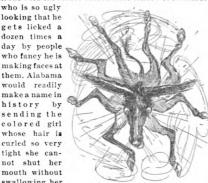
ting whale to the World's Fair, to give visitors an idea of the size of her fish, it behooves other States to decide upon equally novel and instructive exhibits. New Jersey should by all means send a deer hound. On they came! like a cyclone of war-



caged specimen of her recently discovered Twin-Sting Mos quito whose enormous size and fore-and-aft fang arrange ment enable it to draw blood from two persons at the same time or from one person in two different places. This new swamp angel has been christened Vampire Americanus by the Snake Editor of 2 New York journal and its bite is said to put a live electric wire to sleep or to draw blood from

the cheek of a Hoboken hackman. Kentucky can safely pin her faith to the Eight-legged Mule which can kick towards every point of the compass without moving out of its tracks; while the Keystone State might send the Philadelphia maiden who is so modest that she never changes her mind without going into the next room. Maryland should come to the front with that most unfortunate citizen of Baltimore

looking that he gets licked a dozen times a day by people who fancy he is making faces at them. Alabama would readily make a name in history by sending the colored girl whose hair is curled so very tight she cannot shut her mouth without



swallowing her head; and Maine-well, her fishermen will send a Piping Pickerel from Passamaquoddy Pond if New York will follow suit with her Antler-headed, Spikebacked, Glass-eyed, Propellor-tailed Sea Serpent which drove the Fair to Chicago.

SEPTEMBER usually finds the nice young man and his father back in the city, while womankind lingers behind at the seaside or mountain resort, mopes about the broad piazzas and complains bitterly that there is no fun or excitement going on. Eating four or five times a day, changing gowns for every meal, and then not to have even a partner for the hop, the moonlight stroll or midnight tete-a-tete! These things have wrought wrinkles of discontent upon the brow of many a fair summer boarder.

If the stupid men only knew how to go to work they

ould easily organize excitement parties that would fill the lagging hours with rushing events. I was an ear-witness to a little affair of this kind down in Virginia a few seasons ago which showed what an amount of Simon-pure sensation a few public-spirited men can furnish to a hotel full of ladies, if they go about it in the right way.

The Wilderness Hotel was at the time filled with two hundred and forty-seven longing, languishing ladies and five suffering men. Excitement was what the ladies raved for, and going to bed with the chickens was what they kicked against, to use an ancient scriptural phrase.

It finally became a case of life and death with the men, and the way they made Rome howl was a cau tion. Under pretence of going on a fishing trip they rode to the nearest villages and plantations—some twenty-five miles off-and organized a surprise party. the principal ingredients of which were midnight, two packs of hungry hounds, a dead fox, one live mule, one ditto darkey, and Egyptian secresy on the part of all concerned.

After contracting with the Ethiopian to report for duty, with pack and pelt, the following evening at ten o'clock, at a point about a mile and a half from the hotel, the quintette of excitement promoters quietly returned towards evening, with "fisherman's luck." Their program was this; After arriving at the selected spot at the hour named, with the dogsforty-seven in all, of all ages, breeds and conditions duly secured, the darky was to leave them in charge of an assistant, and, mounted on his mule, drag the fox toward the hotel criss-crossing the hills and valleys around it. Dismounting, as he neared the hostelry, he was to cautiously approach and drag the fox along the wide porches and piazzas, and thence, again mounting, proceed at right angles to the direction by which he had come, to a point within hearing distance and then, by a circuitous route, work back toward the hotel again, timing his arrival just ar hour after his first visit, and there repeat the opera tion. He was to cover twenty-three miles in all. He was to leave no stone unturned, as it were. He was to receive a dollar for every mile traversed, and he was to be killed in case he failed to carry out his part. He still lives, for he carried it out to a T.

The hour of half-past ten always found the occu of the Wilderness Hotel wrapped in blankets and slumber, and at just that time, from down in the valley there came floating the first baying of the hounds. Every moment it swelled louder and louder. Every kind of note from the short falsetto velps of the beagle to the sweet, mellow bays of the English

whoops set to music. Up went a window, and a night-robed figure peeped anxiously out. Another, and still another, until each one of two hundred and forty-seven windows framed a modest maiden or mature madonna. By this time the dogs had reached the rounding driveway leading to the hotel. Up they raced, yelping, howling, baying, hot on the trail. In a moment the lawn was covered with them, and judging from the racket there seemed to be a million. Suddenly they lost the scent, for old Africanus had done his work well, and the entire pack fell over each other, skirmishing and rummaging in every direction. Only a man who occupied a reserved seat when pandemonium was let loose could have any idea of the conglomeration of noises which rent the midnight air in twain. Lights began to flash in every window and on every side, and with squeals of alarm and fright a couple of hundred Juliets, half-awake, poked out their heads in the vain endeavor to see what was up. The pet poodle of Mrs. Curlet who oc-cupied an upper front room with his mistress, overcome with excitement, jumped out of the window and was instantly siezed by a score of eager dogs, each of



untimely end of her appoplectic poodle In due time Old Uncle Pete again loomed up and made his second round, dismounted as before, dragged the fox around the house up over the other half of the piazza and down the front steps, and disappeared down the driveway as quietly as he had come. And presently, after all the timid inmates had quieted down and gone to sleep, the faint chorus of hounds was again heard. As before it grew louder and louder. Down rushed the avalanche of purps of almost every kind that could follow a trail, ripping, scrambling, scratching over the piazza, helter-skelter, over, under and through railings, lattice and everything in their path, through the shrubbery and over the flower beds, with the racket of bedlam itself. Up went all the windows again, and out popped the frowsy-looking heads. Squeals and shouts swelled the chorus. Meanwhile the pack, after scrambling all over everything in every direction, started down the road again and finally the baying died away in the distance and in the small hours of the morning. By this time, the ladies who had been craving "excitement evenings" were so thoroughly and completely gratified that they sat up the rest of the night. The five conspirators went to bed and slept the sleep of the just. As for the poodle, his collar and the tuft of whiskers which grew on the end of his tail were all that ever was found.

COMFORTERS.

A stout heart crushes ill luck. A closed mouth catcheth no flies. A word spoken is an arrow let fly. One foot is better than two crutches.

A word often hurts more than a wound. A little body often harbors a great soul.

A good name keeps its lustre in the dark. A pullet in the pen is worth a hundred in the

An evening red and morning gray Will set the traveler on his way, But if the evening's gray and the morning red, Put on your hat or you'll wet your head.

FIDELITY.

Never forsake a friend. When enemies gather around, when sickness falls upon the heart, when all the world is dark and cheerless, is the time to try true friendship. The heart that has been touched with true gold will redouble its efforts when the friend is sad and in trouble. Adversity tries true friendship. They who run hyprocrisy and prove that interest only moves them. If you have a friend that loves you, who has studied your interest and happiness, be sure to sustain him in adversity. Let him feel that his former kindness is appreciated and that his love was not thrown away.

NUTSHELL TRUTHS.

If certain people would follow the advice know thyself" they would form very low acquaintances. Courage, like cowardice, may be contagious, ut some people are not liable to catch it.

Some people never knew they had a heart or friend until they had unhappily lost it.

There is many a man who might govern multitudes if he could only govern himself.

The more drams a man takes the fewer scruples he will bave.

The reason some folks are forever catching cold is because they don't keep their mouths closed enough.



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By Morse & Co Augusta Me



A Night at Walton's Mill.



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HE following adenture will give one an idea of the sufferings risked, and often actually endured, by the early settlers of Ohio. Sixty

years ago the city of Cleveland, whose population is now over a quarter of a million, was a little settlement on the very border of civilization. The set-tlers guarded their cattle from the wild beasts that prowled through the almost unoroken forest; and men daring enough to make their home on the border of the great western reserve

were men of courage and endurance.
One April day in the spring of 1834, George Lucas, who had established himself and family near the little set-tlement called Parma, on the west

"I've waited long enough, and if you



mons Mrs. Lucas hurriedout with her little son in her arms. The baby wasnow over a year old and this

was to be his first visit to his grandmother. "It seems like quite an undertaking for us to go to Newburgh," said Mrs. Lucas,
"I hope the river is low. I remember the last

time we crossed it seemed as if it wasn't more than a brook in some places," "It's just the time for us to go," replied Mr.

Lucas, with a look at the sky, "the river is always safe enough to ford when we've had such a dry spell. I did think we might have a little rain to-day, but I guess it was only wind clouds," he concluded.

The road to the river was through a rough but picturesque country. Occasional clearings gave them glimpses of their neighbors' farms, and in the distance the hills rose blue against the sky.

"I don't know as it was a very good idea for you and baby to come to-day, after all," said Mr. Lucas as they neared the fording place, "it will be mighty near dark when we get home, and if we should have rain this river wont be easy to ford."

Mrs. Lucas laughed merrily. "Why, you just said you guessed the rain today would be all-wind; and even if it should rain, Baby and I wont mind a little wetting, would we baby?" A remark to which the baby replied by a series of ejaculations, accompanied by appropriate gestures, so that both father and mother

of their infant's cleverness. "I hope you got some one to look after the cattle, George, you know two of Mr. Wildes best cows were killed by the bears last week," said Mrs. Lucas as they came near the river.

forgot the weather in admiring contemplation

"Yes, I looked after everything," responded Mr. Lucas, "the bears wont find any lunch ready for them to-day, unless they catch up with us."

The river was low, and they crossed without difficulty and in a short time arrived safely at their destination.

After the horses had been taken care of, and while Mr. Lucas was making arrangements for the load of seed potatoes, the family noticed the dark clouds coming up in the southwest. Mrs. Lucas was greatly alarmed. She had lived near the Cuyahoga long enough to know that a few hours would change it from a peaceful, quiet river into a rushing, relentless stream that made fording dangerous, if not impossible.

But after an hour or two of threatening clouds, the sky apparently cleared, and they prepared to start for home.

The dusk came on rapidly. When they reached the river there was a sound of distant thunder, and a narrow shred of lightning ran across the sky. It was evident that there had been a cloud burst among the hills, for the river was swollen and muddy. Its usually clear waters were changed to

a dull yellow • | the current was much stronger in the morning. "I've a great mind not to venture, after all," said Mr. Lucas, peering

anxiously across the water, "what do you think about it, Martha?" "Well, you know the ford

so well, and therive you be much deeper than it was this morning," responded Mrs. Lucas. whose anxiety to get home for the moment

> enough, but the river looks bad," said Mr. Lucas, starting his horses into the stream.

The river did look floating logs and bits of refuse that

terred them from making the attempt to cross. But George Lucas was familiar with danger

his team was a safe and steady one, and he had little fear but he could cross in safety. Mrs. Lucas did not realize the danger until they were well into the stream, and the distant thunder came nearer, and through the deepening

shadows came a vivid flash of lightning.

For some little distance all went well, and they were beginning to hope that the worst was over, when the horses suddenly plunged violently forward and then stop-

At the same moment they felt their carriage sinking Mr. Lucas tried to urge the

horses on. The noble beasts responded bravely, but the wagon

They had struck a quicksand, and the wheels had sunk to the hubs. The heavy load held the wagon fast and prevented its being overturned.

In a moment Mr. Lucas realized the peril of their position. Though the wagon was firmly fixed it was possible that the strong current and heavy wind might sweep it over. The horses apparently had a firm foothold and there was but little to fear from them.

The rain was now falling heavily, and the lightning came in swift flashes showing that the river was rising.

"What are we going to do, George?"

At the sound of his wife's voice Mr. Lucas resolve was made.

"I must try and get help or we shall be drowned," he answered. "You mustn't be afraid, Martha, I'm going to fix these robes and my coat so as to keep the rain off you and the boy as well as I can; then I'm going to unhitch old Jim and ride ashore for help. You'll be safe here until I get back to you."

"Couldn't baby and I go with you, George?" "No," he answered slowly, "you couldn't keep on a horse's back in this storm, and I may have to swim for it."

He stepped out on the pole of the wagon, and in a moment had Jim unhitched and was

"I'm ready to start, Martha. I'll call to you from the shore, and be back for you before you know it," he said, and was swallowed up by the darkness.

The horse that was still hitched to the wagon sent a frightened neigh after his companion,

horse's back and lost in the swirling

current. But at last she heard his voice. "All right. Martha, keep up your courage.' And she called bravely back, "all right."

On reaching shore Mr. Lucas hurried to the nearest was that of Mr. Walton, the owner o sponse to his calls and

knocks Mr. Walton opened the door, and Mr Lucas' story was told in less time than it takes to write it.

Rushing into the house Mr. Walton seized the horn which hung on the kitchen wall, and in a moment its re-

peated blast sounded out above the noise of the storm and roused the mill hands to the fact that danger was near and assistance needed.

In a short time lights were seen flickering among the half dozen log houses,

and the answering note of a horn showed that help was

The men hurried towards the shore carrying with lines and Several women accompanied the party, and as Mrs. Walton wrapped her heavy shawl about her and started into the night the big St. Bernard dog, Major, her constant companion, followed her.

The storm had increased in violence and it was with a trembling heart that George Lucas returned to the shore and looked out into the blackness of the night.

The quick and almost continuous flashes of light-

ning showed the wagon still a fixture, and the motionless figure of Mrs. Lucas clasping the child in her arms. In response to the encouraging calls from the people gathered upon the shore, Mrs. Lucas' voice (CONCLUDED ON PAGE 3)



The child slept on, warm and protected from the storm in his mother's arms, as she listened for her husband's call that was to assure her of his safety. Added to her own peril was the dreadful fear that he would be swept off the

side of the Cuyahoga River, was preparing for a journey to Newburgh, now one of the suburbs of Cleveland. His pair of steady going horses were harnessed into the light wagon, and he was waiting for his wife who was going with him on a visit to her family, while Mr. Lucas intended bringing home a load of seed potatoes. "Hurry up, Martha," he called,

> intend cross ing the river with me today want to be on hand." In response to this sum-

overcome her fears. "I suppose it's safe

bad. The gathering darkness of the night the rush and roar of water, and the

THE GHOST OF WUN LUNG.

BY HAROLD KINSABBY.

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CHAPTER II. (Conclusion.)

SYNOPSIS OF CHAPTER I.— Just before midnight, on the 9th of December, 1881, the author saw a ghost on Nob Hill in the city of 8an Francisco. Prior to this he did not believe in such things; and not until he had used the Australian "spook-test," and the frightful spectacle, "a human skeleton, —skull, uplifted arm, and flowing shroud,—all shastly white, too real to be mistaken," had passed his window a second time, was he fully convinced. The following day he reported the fact to his friend Nelson, who, after painful chaffing, agrees to lay in wait for the shost the following night. After several hours of anxious watching they are suddenly startled by the appearance of the frightful figure.

HE horrified tone and awful shudder with which the exclamation "A ghost, by dash!" was uttered, left no doubt of the speaker's condition of mind and body. But for a trembling that the strong arm failed to conceal, the man might have been mistaken for a statue symbolizing anxiety, terror, doubt, and conviction, all mingled in one.

Left with sufficient courage and presence of mind to realize that my time had come for " paying back," I said in the most natural tone I could affect, but which I fear failed, nevertheless, to conceal the ghoulish glee I felt : -

gentle-

man up

carefully,

and tell

me how

he com-

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wildcats."

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the win-

dow, I began again

ply.



"Certainly," turning abruptly, as though aroused from a deep reverie. "What is it?"

"Won't you do me the favor to step before this mirror, try on the hat you dropped when you got up so suddenly a moment ago, and see if it still fits

Again no answer.

Presently, however, after pacing the floor two or three times, he excitedly exclaimed: "That bowls me out! I can't account for it."

"I can," I said calmly.
"How?" placing himself before me.

" Will you promise me upon your word of honor to keep it secret?"
"Yes."

"Why, it's nothing in the world but the effect of the 'chemical influence of the Califor'" - but here he had already resumed his position at the window.

He stood a moment in silence, then, turning to me, exclaimed with great emphasis: " That was a ghost as sure as I live! And — I should like to see more of

"He'll very likely be back in ten or fifteen minutes, same as last night."
"What do you say to going down and 'laying for

him '? Get your 'gun 'quick!"

"I'll go with you upon one condition," I insisted.
"What's that?"

"That you'll tell me 'when to shoot."

Neither spoke again until we had reached the sidewalk; but there, just as we had started to go down hill, I made a movement as if I wished to return to the house.

"What's the matter now?"

"I forgot something." " What?"

"That writ of ejectment."

"Look here," squaring himself before me. "You saw a ghost, didn't you?"

"Well, I saw that ghost too."

" And

" Let's tackle that ghost, and not 'vituperate' each other."

We shook hands, then walked three blocks farther down, where, hidden from view by the deep shadows of a receding doorway, we proceeded to "lay for" that ghost.

Before proceeding with my narrative, I may add, lating any honorable obligation to either dead or living, that the feeling called suspense unfolds itself in all its true robustness to that man only who " lays for a ghost.'

As the sole guardian of his own safety, a man may have sought honest foe or ambushed enemy amid hostile hordes; as the lone guardsman of his pioneer possessions, protected his solitary camp-fire; or, moved by the magnetic spirit of adventure, he may have spent weary nights amid the perils of the jungles; yet with the combined emotions of uncertainty these experiences have aroused within him, he is still a stranger to one sensation, and that sensation comes to the man who in good faith, and on a dark night, proceeds to capture a real ghost.

Though all was dark and peaceful about us, I hadn't stood there two minutes before I became thoroughly convinced of this fact.

The brief but oppressive spell of silence, during which each had repeatedly made sure of a "correct grip" of his revolver, was suggestly relieved by

solemnly whispered injunctions of my companion. "Now, if he comes down this way, we'll 'lay him out cold,' but we'll have to be mighty careful about

"Careful about what?" I asked anxiously.

"That the law can't hold us."

"Great guns! Nelson, I never thought of that. You don't mean to say there is a law against shoot

ing ghosts?"
"Not exactly; but neither judge nor jury knows what a ghost is like, because there's been none killed; so we'll have to keep on the safe side."

"How'll we do it? Talk fast, old man."

"You know, of course, that according to law the killing of a human being constitutes murder, and a jury might say a ghost was human, but "-

'Then how'll we do it? Speak, man!" "But, I started to say, you may kill in self-de-

fence." "Suppose he doesn't tackle us?"

"Well, listen to me carefully; I haven't studied law for fun. In the first place, we'll get in his way accidentally, - mind you, accidentally, - then as he swoops down upon us, we make superhuman efforts to get out of his reach, but "— "That's easy enough," I said.

"Listen, will you, while I talk. But we find that the supernatural monstrosity has paralyzed us in our feet, so we can't move. Feeling our lives imperilled, I'll cry out: 'Stop, thief, or we'll shoot! (I'll not say it loud, because I want a square pop at the old gent.) And if he moves another inch, both of us, terrified by intense personal peril, desperate at finding ourselves deprived of all other protection of the law, crazed by the dastardly attack of the midnight assassin, insane, by Jove! from fear of being innocently slain in cold blood, and no longer responsible for our acts, we defend our lives, give ourselves up, and immediately go free, in accordance with the statute in such case made and provided."

"Are you sure we'll be safe in doing that?"

"Dead certain. The law of California permits neither man, ghost, nor devil to terrorize, mutilate, or kill law-abiding people. In other words, recognizing the cardinal principle that self-preservation is the first law of nature, it throws about its citizens, by constitutional enactment, the safeguard of 'self-

Before these words of reassurance had passed his lips, the car had already left the terminus at the foot

quiet agaia, look out, Nelson," I said.

ain't trembling, are you?"

emon had already entered

prostrate on the ground.

grip on the destroyer's arm.

"I will. Don't you forget to be quick on the

That instant a sharp tapping on a window, appar ently a block above us, met our ears, and at the same

time we saw the downward car mounting the hill-

side. As it approached, the noise increased to a loud

rattle, then suddenly stopped. The car had no sooner passed us and the hill again become bare,

than the ghost appeared at the summit, gliding

"Oh, no! I always feel a little chilly at night

"Remember, now, the moment he gets close

enough we'll rush out; and when I say 'Shoot!' you

pump cold lead into that snowy skull, while I ladle

some pellets between his ribs. Let him have it five

times in succession. And don't forget, it's got to

be all accidental, - we were paralyzed into the deed by the 'superhuman monstrosity.' I first cried,

Stop, or we'll shoot!' then, wild, frenzied, crazy

with fear, we killed him in self-defence. Don't forget what I tell you, for you'll have to swear to it."

But the time for talking had now passed. The

"Now, then, rush for the middle of the street!"

We rushed, and in doing so I passed through

When still within fifty feet of the hideous mon

ster, a dark figure, armed with a long club, sprang

suddenly from a doorway on the opposite side of

the street, and in another moment the ghost lay

The unexpected scene passed like a flash of light

ning before our astonished eyes; and before we had

fully realized what had happened, we stood breathless behind the slayer, as he, unconscious of our

The stern demand was accompanied by a firm

Startled as if shot, the latter sprang forward in

frantic attempt to flee, but, finding himself hope-

lessly in custody, he stared wildly at his captors.

presence, stooped over his fallen victim. What are you doing here?"

the most awful moments I have ever experienced.

the block

But what were you going to say? Speak quick!"

swiftly in mid-air, just as on previous occasions. "There he comes!" we both exclaimed together in excited whispers. "Remember, now — Say, you

"Now, after that's gone, and the coast is clear and

"Speak quick! What are you doing here?"
"Him not my glost!" was uttered in the meek rembling tones of a Celestial.

"Very good. You are our prisoner. We are United States detectives. Pick up the ghost and come with us," demanded my companion.

"Me velly muchee" -

"Don't say another word!" The command was emphasized by a fiendish flourish of the speaker's

With one arm encircling the body of his victim, while the other rested in the firm grasp of one of his captors, - armed with the deadly club as an additional safeguard of self-defence, - the China-

his captors,—armed with the deadly club as an additional safeguard of self-defence,—the Chinaman was placed between us, and without another word hurriedly marched to my friend's office on Kearney Street near by.

There, behind locked doors, and after imposing upon our prisoner the solemn injunction that any attempt to escape or raise an alarm would be promptly followed by the death penalty, we proceeded to throw light upon the object that had agitated our minds as nothing had ever done before.

Fidelity to truth compels the candid admission that, as we anxiously scrutinized the frightful demon now prostrate, helpless, and inanimate, he no longer impressed us as a formidable foe.

True, the skull and skeleton arm, chalked to ghastly whiteness, still awakened feelings akin to horor; but even the first glance disclosed the fact that our prize was lacking in certain elements of harmony and completeness highly essential to a really great ghost.

In fact, a sense of keen disappointment came over us both when, emboldened by the evident fact that the ghost was hopelessly and irreclaimably defunct, we rudely lifted the drapery and disclosed to our astonished view an anatomy whose painful simplicity and harmless incompleteness caused a smile to steal even over the face of the terrified heathen.

In other words, one look convinced us that, although technically present, our ghost was spiritually absent and physically imperfect.

Briefly described from memory, the plan and specifications that governed his creation are these: The human skull already alluded to, to which was securely attached one end of a gas-pipe twelve feet long and one inch in diameter. The other end of this pipe was flattened to readily admit its passing through the "grip" slot on the cable road, and was provided with a pair of self-acting spring pinchers, ingeniously constructed of nickel, and so affixed as to act in the capacity of a "grip." Front and rear guards, which were attached to the pipe to prevent the accidental falling of the ghost, completed

glost."
"Who is One Lung,
and where does he and where does he live?"

"You no catchee him"

him

him."
"Why not?"
"Him dead."
"Why did
knock down
ghost."

knock down the ghost."

"Wun Lung him say, 'Go catchee glost."

"Here! You just said One Lung was dead!" exclaimed my companion, moving toward the prisoner. "Tell me, do you believe in the sacredness of an oath?" oath?"
"No sabe."

"No sabe."

"Dare you deny upon your word of honor, or over your own signature, that this whole thing is a foul plot,—a plot nursed by fraud and reared by iniquity; a deep-laid plot on the part of a lot of highbinders, of whom you are the arch-fiend, to conspire against the peace and dignity of this community?"

"No sabe! Me velly sick!"

"Villain! In the name of the Chief of Police and the Mayor of the city of San Francisco, the Governor of the State of California, and the President of the United States of America, I call upon you to witness these firearms and the lariat you see hanging yonder, and if you don't answer the questions I shall put to you, we'll hang you out of this window and then shoot you full of holes!"

"No sabe! Me feelee velly, velly bad."

"Prisoner, stand up."

"He arose.

"You may now proceed to state categorically your name, age, occupation, how long you have held such position and where previously employed; your residence; for what period of time prior to the municipal election last past you had occupied such domicile; whether you have on previous occasions been apprehended; if so, how many; and furthermore, whether you are married or single, and if not, why not. Now answer me categorically, as aforesaid; and if you withhold or pervert a single incriminating circumstance, my 'gun' will tell you of it."

Even before I had regained my breath, the Celestial, whose small, sunken even pore height.

Even before I had regained my breath, the Celestial, whose small, sunken eyes now bulged wildly out, as he stood fiercely eyeing his questioner, broke out in loud and deeply agitated tones:

"You no sahe my name well."

out, as he stood fiercely eyeing his questioner, broke out in loud and deeply agitated tones:—

"You no sabe my name velly muchee. You cullum me categolickally. My name Sing Lo. Me velly good cook, me"—

"Hold on, John," I shouted. "Nel"— But, not heeding my words, he continued:—

"Me no catchee moonee's pal. Me catchee onlee Wun Lung's glost. Heap Melican talkee, plentee foolem mit 'gun' makee me velly much sickee!"

"Nelson," I said, "I object; this can't go on."

"What's the matter? We must lay down the law to the guilty heathen. I am proceeding under the sixty-seventh rule of the Federal Statutes"—

"Doing what?"

"My dear fellow, don't you suppose I know how to draw out a witness? Besides, in our thirst for facts and justice, we musn't forget that the strong arm of the law vouchsafes to even the most humble and unfortunate of God's creatures a full and fair hearing. In other words, we must temper justice with mercy, and I am only doing what the chivalry of my profession demands of me."

"If such is the chivalry of law, I move for an adjournment to enable the prisoner to procure counsel; or I must at least insist upon a brief recess in order that he may prepare his case for that Court before which certain lawyers are not permitted to enter an appearance."

"Nonsense! We want the facts, don't we?"

"Well, ain't I getting them? Just let me alone and you may bet that I'll bring him up short, hopelessly tangled up in his own testimony. You're not a lawyer. What are you finding fault with me

and you may bet that I'll bring him up snort, nopelessly tangled up in his own testimony. You're not a lawyer. What are you finding fault with me for?"

"I don't find fault with your scaring the helpless heathen. I don't mind your hanging him. As a matter of fact, I don't object to your shooting him. But in the name of the common 'Fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man,' I do protest against downright torture."

"Me velly sleepee; me likee go home now," meekly chimed in the Chinee.

"Nelson," I said, "I'll match you pennies to see which of us is to give Sing Lo a dollar, so that he'll tell us the whole story about the ghost."

"I'll do it, but it isn't good law."

"Here you are, Sing, there's your dollar; now tell us every thing, and then we'll let you go."

"All litte.

Wun Lung's glost?"

"Yes; go on."

"All litte.

Wun Lung, velly good Chinee man, him dead now. Keepee laundley, Dupont Stleet, not long 'go. Velly well. One day big Melican man, him name MickeeO'Bline, llishman allee same he say, 'You sellee I au ndley?'

"Wun Lung him say, 'Not

ley?'
"Wun Lung
"Not

him say,

muchee, Mistel O'Bline.'

"Ilishman say, 'Me likee catchee saloon.'

"Wun Lung him say, 'Me catchee dolla, six bittee, sometime two dolla day, best place in de citee; me likee to stay.'

"Wun Laugh ame tee, sometime two dolla day, best place in uter the sometime two dolla day, best place in uter me likee to stay."

"Velly good lie!' Ilishman say. 'Me makee you sickee. Chinee must go.'

"'Not muchee! Me stickee to washee, me and Sing Lo. You talkee heap boshee; Ilish must go.'

"Big Ilishman say, 'Me give you heap kickee, you Chinee galoot; smashee mit blickee, ugly mud snoot.'

Now Mistel Mickee,

snoot."

"Wun Lung him sing out: 'Now Mistel Mickee, stop foolee, you please. You slingee one blickee, me cullum police."

"Whoop! Velly fly Ilishman catchee him 'gun'—shootem heap holes into Wun Lung,—dead velly onick."

quick."
"Sing Lo," I asked, "what became of this man
Mike O'Brien?"
"Him keepee ginee-mill now. Smashee up laun-

Mike O'Drien.

"Him keepee ginee-mill now. Smasnee up manadeley."

"Didn't the police arrest him?"

"Ha! Ilishman heap 'solid' mit police, catchee velly big 'pull' mit Ilish. Melican judgee. Him say, 'You shootem Chinee, Mistel O'Bline? Self-defencee, five-dolla fine. Next.' You sabe?"

"Yes, we sabe; but how about the ghost?"

"Velly good. Now Wun Lung have one son. He say, 'Me fixee big Ilish blute.'"

"Do you mean to say," interrupted my companion, "that this little Lung called O'Brien 'a big Irish brute'? Mike is a particular friend of mine."

"Him velly bad egg allee samee."

"Go on with your story, Sing Lo. Here's two bits more for you. Now tell us all about this second Lung."

"Go on with your story, Sing Lo. Here's two bits more for you. Now tell us all about this second Lung."
"All lite. By'n by Wun Lung—him young Wun Lung—hix mu p velly fly glost of olee Wun Lung—him dead. 'Me makee Hishman heap sickee of ginee-mill,' he say to me an' Ah Wing. Ah Wing, he velly good Chinee boy, stickum 'glip' on cable. Glost fly likee debbil down hill. Me, Sing Lo, catchee mit club, fixum' glip,' an' glost scootee dup hill likee debbil. Ahlee same time Wun Lung him playem 'tickee-tackee' on Hishman window. Hishman velly dlunk; wakee up, lookem out window, —Wun Lung's glost flyem likee debbil. Velly quick Mistel O'Bline getee heap sick of ginee-mill—him flyem likee debbil. Wun Lung catchee laundley. You sabe?"

"Yes, but how does Mike know that it's Wun Lung's glost?"

"Him onlee wun alm."
"Did old One Lung have only one arm?"
"Him did. He loosem one in China; fallee down one day, brakem off. Me velly sleepee, now me likee go home."

"Wait a minute. 'The chivalry of the law' entities you to witness-fees from 'the Chief of Police and Mayor of San Francisco, the Governor of California, and the President of the United States of America.' Nelson, hand the witness six bits."

"I will, if he answers one question."

"Ask it, if it's short; if not, I'll shoot."

"Sing Lo, what did you call the thing you 'fixum' to the cable?"

"Me callum' glip.' Wun Lung him callum 'nickel.' He say, 'Putem nickel in slot, Hishman seeum

to the cable?"

"Me callum 'glip.' Wun Lung him callum 'nickel.'
He say, 'Putem nickel in slot, Ilishman seeum glost.')

"All right, here are your witness fees. You may go now, Chilee."

"Chilee," repeated the Chinaman with an astonished grin. "You speakee Chinee velly well." Then, taking the ghost tenderly under his arm, he hurriedly passed to the outer darkness.

Half an hour later on my men has a support of the content of the content

passed to the outer darkness.

Half an hour later, on my way home, I stopped at Dupont Street, and there, near the corner, my eye met the sign:—

MICHAEL O'BRIEN. CHOICE WINES AND LIQUORS

CHOICE WINES AND LIQUORS.

As I drew the shades at my window that night, I carnestly hoped that one of two possible things might prove true: either that Michael had retired unusually sober, and, responding to the "tickee-tackee," had seen the ghost as I had seen it; or, in case he had, as was not unreasonable to conclude, sought repose under other conditions, he had at least been so "velly dlunk" as to insure his experiencing, without being aroused, that "magnetic mutuality of spirits" the poet had immortalized.

A day or two after my adventure I was called to Oregon, and from that day to this I have neither heard nor seen any thing more of the ghost.

Curlosity led me, however, on my return to San Francisco, three weeks later, to revisit the scene of the fatal brutality Sing Lo had so graphically detailed.

tailed.

Even my first glance from a distance assured me that a great change had come over the premises. As I drew near and read on the small, crude sign the four tell-tale words,

WUN LUNG.

CHINESE LAUNDRY,

I experienced, amid the sea of ghostly recollections that floated across my memory, that feeling of sweet satisfaction which, though a stranger to the heart of the true Christian, serves materially to brighten the pathway of the honest sinner. And I wondered, as I turned to go, whether the man who was "solid" with the police wouldn't, after all, have gladly exchanged his strong "pull" on the law for even a gentle "pull" on — the ghost of Wun Lung.



bered the dog, and understood that he was coming to her aid.

The dog struck out bravely, but it was soon evident that, in spite of his utmost endeavors, he was being swept down by the current, and could not reach the wagon.

It was several minutes before he could be got back to the shore, and the rescue was beginning to seem almost a hopeless effort, when a woman screamed, "Take him further up shore and let him go down with the current!" The suggestion was promptly carried out.

They waited in anxious silence, straining their eyes through the darkness, trying to catch a glimpse of the dog, and to see if the wagon still held.

Major responded nobly to the trust placed in him. Guided by Mrs. Lucas' voice and helped on by the sweep of the current, the brave animal soon reached the wagon.

In response to a call from the shore Mrs. Lucas

Major responded nobly to the trust placed in him. Guided by Mrs. Lucas' voice and helped on by the sweep of the current, the brave animal soon reached the wagon.

In response to a call from the shore Mrs. Lucas untied the line and fastened it securely to the wheel, while a cheer from the shore assured her that her call had been heard.

The vivid lightning continued. Flash after flash revealed the busy workers to the anxious woman, who, chilled by the heavy rain, tired, and frightened by the peril of her position, was fast losing her power of endurance.

Aided by the line one of the men was now able to reach the wagon, and to fasten stout ropes about it which were carried on shore, where two strong yoke of oxen were waiting to do their part in the rescue.

The horse that had stood quietly without endeavoring to break loose, was unharnessed and made its way to shore.

The oxen were now attached to the ropes, which were made fast to the wagon.

The man who had gone to the assistance of Mrs. Lucas, had fastened a line securely about her waist. "If the wagon gives way just keep hold of the baby and don't be frightened, they'll pull you ashore all right," he said, and then he called:

"All ready. Pull away."

With a feeling of terror Mrs. Lucas realized that the wheels had started.

Slowly and steadily the wagon began to move, until at last the pole was within reach of the eager hands and the wagon was pulled up on shore and Mrs. Lucas was clasped in her husband's arms.

She was carried to the nearest cottage where she was turnished with dry clothing. Major seemed to feel a sense of responsibility toward the ship wrecked travellers whom he had rescued, and established himself as near to Mrs. Lucas as possible.

The baby, who had quietly slept through the dangers which hade necircled him, now awoke and by loud cries demanded that he should become one of the heroes of the occasion.

The next morning the little party were able to begin their home, her eyes filled with tears, and with a gratitude too deep for words she r

The War Correspondent.



most exciting, perilous and
difficult positions among
modern breadwinners is that
of War Correspondent on one of great ne This man is the con-necting link between the fighting army in the field and

fighting arm y in the field and the anxious army at home. The necessary qualities, mental and physical, to: a successful correspondent are so rarely found combined in one man that but few have risen to great prominence, and it would seem that, like geniuses, they are "born, not made." First and foremost he must be a thorough journalist, knowing to a nicety what the vast public hanging on his words wants most to hear about. He must be a man of iron constitution, endurance and steady nerves, quick of resource, indomitable in energy. He must be accurate in statement, uninfluenced by wild and exciting rumors, with graphic and picturesque descriptive powers, ready on the instant to correctly portray with pen and pencil the scenes around him. During movements of troops he must be ever vigilant—the first in the field and the last to leave it, as it were—and always to the front. He must possess a high order of military talent, and his grasp of the situation must be almost as great as that of the generals in the field, whose confidence he must possess. This military instinct enables him not only to keep himself in the fore-front of

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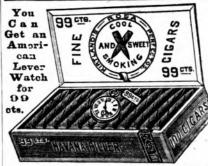


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Dear Sir the only preparation in all the world that will cal results herein shown, AND NEVER FAIL, is AMRITA, or Juice of the India Soma Plani. We will be glad to send a trial case of Auntita free of expense to any man who desires to test its marvelous qualities. Address
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Answers must reach us on or before Dec. 20, 1892.

Answers must reach us on or before Dec. 20, 1892. Our January issue will annuance the result of the contest, with names and addresses of the winners. We have given away over \$30,000 in prizes and premiums to our subscribers in the past two years and now have over \$250. Our Collection. With your answer and name and address plainly. With your answer send 250c, postal note or 350c, in stamps for a subscription to our Illustrated 16pp. Paper.

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THE COLUMN TO A DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF



EAR COUSINS:

With the coming of Jack Frost to crack open the chestnut burrs, and make the farmer think about getting in his pump-kins and squashes, comes the thought of mince meat, squash pies and similar good things. The canning and pickling is mostly done, only a few sweet cucumber pickles, or quince preserves, remaining to be made, and we are thinking of getting ready for winter, unpleasant as the prospect may be. I believe there are some recipes for mince meat in the topy drawer, by the way, and this is a good time to get them out.

MINCE MEAT.

Boil and mash fine 3 small bowls of lean meat,
2 of apples, 1 of molasses, 1 of vinegar, 1 of
eider, 1 of suet or butter, 5 of sugar, 2 of raisins,
or berry preserves, 2 tablespoons cinnamon, 2
of cloves, 2 nutmegs, 1 teaspoon black pepper
and salt, 3 lemons, grated and squeezed. If
suet is used, boil it gently a short time; if butter, simply scald. And I will also give a recipe

ter, simply scald. And I will also give a recipe for squash PATTIES.

Take young, tender squashes, steam until soft; add black pepper and salt, to suit the taste, a good piece of butter, flour to make a stiff batter, make into small cakes and fry in hot lard. Mrs. B. R. VANNOY.

"We see so many accounts of terrible accidents from the use of coal oil in building fires. Now let me tell you my way. I soak a rag with the oil, place it on the grate, where it can be reached with a match from below, then put in the rest of the kindling, and light the rag. This is the safest way I know of. And while I am here, let me give my recipe for

here, let me give my recipe for

TOMATO SOUP.

1 qt. tomatoes, 3 pts. milk, 1 large tablespoon flour, 1 teaspoon butter, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon soda. Put the tomato on to stew, adding the soda, Boil the milk, except enough to mix the flour. Add the cold thickened milk to the boiling milk, salt, pepper, butter, last of all the tomatoes. Boil 10 minutes, strain or not, as you like it.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Never throw away old tooth-brushes, but put them in strong soapy water, boil well, rinse in cold water and dry in the sun. They are good to clean the handles of china and glassware by dipping them in warm water, then in soda, and rub the crevices briskly. They will also be found useful in polishing silver, and many other ways. When sheets become thin in the middle, tear them in two and sew the outsides together, hem the sides, and you will get double wear out of your sheets, and no mending to do.

wear out of your sheets, and you will get double swiss roll.

I b. of eggs, 1-2 lb. flour, 1-2 lb. sugar. Whisk the eggs and sugar to a cream, add the flour lightly, and spread out carefully in a tin well buttered and papered. Bake in a quick oven. When done, spread with raspberry jam and roll up; dust with sugar.

1-2 lb. rice, 1-2 pt. milk, 4 oz. butter, 2 oz. loaf sugar, 2 eggs. Boil the rice in the milk until quite soft, add the butter, sugar and eggs, and a few drops of almond essence. Stir over the fire until quite thick, and turn on a plate to cool. Make into balls, dip into egg and bread crumbs, fry in boiling lard and sift sugar over them.

HASH.

Take scraps of cold meat, onions, pepper, sage, and as much sifted bread crumbs as you have meat. Chop all together, put in a stewpan, cover with water, add a pinch of salt, and bell 1.2 hour.

boil 1-2 hour.

POTATO BALLS.

11-2 lbs. mashed potatoes, 2 oz. butter, 2 eggs.
Season the potatoes with pepper and salt, beat
very smooth with the butter and yolk of one
egg, form into small balls, roll in flour, then in
the egg, then in bread crumbs, fry in boiling
fat

the egg, then in bread crames, 18th.

STEWED CELERY.

6 heads of celery, 1-2 pt. white stock, 2 tablespoons cream, butter, and flour, 1 blade of mace, pepper and salt. Wash the celery, strip off the outer leaves, cut into 4 inch pieces, put into stew-pan with stock; stew till tender, then add cream, mace, pepper and salt, a little but-and flour, boil 5 minutes and serve.

Mrs. A. M. B.

add cream, mace, pepper and salt, a little butand flour, boil 5 minutes and serve.

Mrs. A. M. B.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE YOUNG HOUSEKEEPERS.
Proper management of the kitchen fire:—The demands upon the kitchen fire are varied. Sometimes we want a very hot oven or surface, and again we must have only a moderate amount of heat. The degree of heat must be regulated by the various checks and draughts in the range, rather than by the use of a greater or less amount of coal. In the morning remove all the ashes and cinders. Put the shavings or paper on the grate loosely, and then put in the kindling wood, crossing the pieces, that there may be a free circulation of air. Open all the draughts, and light the fire. As soon as the wood begins to burn, put on the coal. Let the fire burn ten minutes; then shut all the dampers, but keep open the draught in front of the fire. When the coal begins to burn well, add enough fresh fuel to come nearly to the top of the lining of the fire-box. Keep the front draught open until all the coal has become ignited, but not until it becomes red-hot. Now close the front draughts, and the fire will be hot enough for anything you may want to do for hours to come. Should you want only a moderate heat, there are checks with all modern ranges and stoves, which enable you to make the combustion very slow. If greater heat be wanted, open the draughts, and in a short time you will have a glowing fire. These are the great secrets of always having a good fire when you want it: do not let the coal burn to a white heat; when you do not require a hot fire, open all the checks; when you want a hot fire, open all the checks; when you want a hot fire, open all the checks; when you want a hot fire, open all the checks; when you want a hot fire, open all the checks; when you want a hot fire, open all the checks; when you want a hot fire, open all the checks; when you want a hot fire, open all the checks; when you want hours. By following the above instructions, one ton of coal will last two months in the colde Now close the front draughts, and the fire will be hot enough for anything you may want to do for hours to come. Should you want only a moderate heat, there are checks with all modern ranges and stoves, which enable you to make the combustion very slow. If greater heat be wanted, open the draughts, and in a short time you will have a glowing fire. These are the great secrets of always having a good fire when you want it: do not let the coal burn to a white heat; when you do not require a hot fire, open all the checks; when you want a hot fire, close the checks and open the draughts; and, of course, the moment there is no further need of a hot fire, close the draughts and open the checks again. A fire built and managed in this way can be used constantly for four hours. By following the above instructions, one ton of coal will last two months in the coldest weather; at least, such has been my experience with large range.

M. E. F.

Soak the beans over night in lukewarm water. Boil about an hour in salted water, season with salt and butter, and they can hardly be distinguished from green beans. Add a pint of

them to a can of corn, and you have a delicious succotash.

them to a can of corn, and you have a delicious succotash.

DRIED PEACHES

and apricots are not expensive, and if properly cooked, make delicious sauce, and may also be used for pies, puddings, etc. Wash the fruit thoroughly, and put in a dish which can be closely covered. (I use a five pound lard pail.) Add cold water to a little more than cover the fruit, and all the sugar that will be required to sweeten them. Cover them closely, and put on a part of the stove where they will cook very slowly. Do not stir them at all. When they are soft, remove from the stove, if they are to be used for pies or puddings. If to be used only for sauce, remove the fruit, and cook the syrup until thick, then pour over the fruit.

PRUNES

will make a nice pie "for a change."

POTATO SALAD

will make a nice pie "for a change."

POTATO SALAD
is a good dish for tea. The following is an excellent rule. Cut the potatoes into dice, and pour over them a dressing made with 3 tablespoons of olive oil, 1 of vinegar, a little salt, pepper and mustard. Cut up a small onion and mix with the potatoes after the dressing has been put on. This will be better if put in the ice-chest for 2 or 3 hours before serving. When ready to serve, garnish with chopped parsley.

INEZ REDDING.

"I thought I would write and tell the cousins how to make

how to make

My husband says I can't be beat in making that.
2 cups sweet milk, 3-4 cup molasses, a little salt,
1 teaspoon soda, 1 cup wheat flour, 21-2 cups
graham flour. Put in a basin and steam one
hour, set in the oven for five minutes, and you
will have a loaf of as nice bread as you ever ate.

Mrs. T. STEADMAN."

MUFFINS.

1 pt. milk, 5 cups flour, 1 teaspoon soda, 2 of cream tartar, 2 eggs, 1 tablespoon butter. This makes 2 dozen.

makes 2 dozen.

CORN MEAL PUDDING.

1 cup flour, 1 egg, 1 spoonful lard, same of sugar, 2 teaspoons salt, 1 of soda, 1 qt. buttermilk, and corn meal enough to make a moderate batter.

PHILADELPHIA PUDDING.

5 well beaten eggs, 5 tablespoons sweet milk, 5 of flour, a little suet, pour 1 qt. of boiling milk upon it and bake 15 minutes.

Miss L. G. Gramm, Cordelia, Penn.

Miss L. G. Gramm, Cordelia, Penn.

SIMPLE SPONGE CAKE.

3 eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon cold water, 1
teaspoon baking powder sifted with 1 cup flour,
1 teaspoon lemon essence. Bake 20 minutes in
a quick oven.

GINGER COOKIES.

1 egg, 1 cup molasses, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup butter and lard mixed, 1-2 cup boiling water, 1
tablespoon ginger, 1 level teaspoon soda dissolved in a little water, flour enough to mold
soft. Roll thin and bake quick.

An Iowa Cousin.

With many thanks to those who have sent

With many thanks to those who have sent recipes, I will now close the column for this month. COUSIN CERES, (Care of COMFORT.)

IMPORTANT TO FLESHY PEOPLE.

IMPORTANT TO FLESHY PEOPLE.

We notice that the Boston Sunday Globe recently published a full page (8 column) article, giving an interesting description of a new method for curing obesity, at a total cost of from \$2.00 to \$3.00. Doubtless thousands of our readers are suffering from over-weight, and to such this article would be valuable. We learn that to use this method costs only from two to three dollars. Those who wish to reduce their weight, without injury or dieting, should have a copy of the Globe which can be had by sending a two cent stamp to the Boyce's Circulating Library, 216 Hamilton Place, Boston, Mass.

\$18.00 A WEEK paid ladies writing at home. Address with stamped envelope Miss Camilla Avery, Box 58, So. Bend, Ind.





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Address ECYPTIAN DRUG CO. 29 PARK ROW, NEW YORK CITY

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10,000 of these watches were suid at a reduced price, we secured them to an re-sell it for \$25.00. If your buy a watch, cut this ad. out whether ladies or gents size is wanted. KIRTLAND BROS. & CO., G2 Fuiton St., N. Y.





Does it make you sad to see all around us the tokens of the coming winter? If it were not for its mourning fruits are signs of decay, Nature's gay mourning for the death of lovely Summer. Later on she will cover everything with the soft white mantle of sleep. Does she mean by these bright colors to teach us that we should not regret the dying year? We will take her lesson, and look forward with hope into the future, believing that Our Father has something in store for us which will far exceed the blessings of the past.

Let me give you a few words from a little book which has always helped me, before we go on to the letters.

which has always helped me, before we go on to the letters.

"As soon as you wake in the morning, try to realize God stretching forth His hand toward you, and saying: Dost thou really desire that I should watch over thee this day? and you, lift up your hands toward this kind Father, and say to Him: Yes, yes, lead me, guide me, love me, I will be very submissive! Beneath God's protecting hand, is it possible that you can be sorrowful, fearful, unhappy? No, God will allow no suffering, no trial above what you are able to bear. None can harm you, unless it be God's will, and if He allows it, be patient and humble; weep if your heart is sore, but love always, and wait—the trial will pass away, but God will remain yours forever."

ver." Now we have had a little talk and reading together, nd we will pass on to the letters.

and we will pass on to the letters.

"I want to send a few lines of hope and cheer to the Shut-Ins. I want to tell them to rejoice greatly, because 'the Lord hath chosen the weak things of this world.' He has 'hidden these things from the wise and prudent, and revealed them unto babes.' Because 'whom the Lord loveth, He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth.' Is not this a proof that they are His own children, and that He has received them? 'Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial that is to try you, as if some strange thing happened to you. But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of His sufferings, that when His glory be revealed, ye may be glad with exceeding great joy.' It is of very great importance that we should be full of the spirit of submission, and the oil of gladness, when the Bridegroom comes, for it is impossible for the children of self-will to go with Him to the wedding.

STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS.

STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS.

Tempest-tossed, perplexed, uncertain, In the wilderness with Thee, In the place where Thou wast strengthened, Son of man, now strengthen me.

When the clouds are gathered round me, And my barque's far out at sea, Master, on the troubled waters, Manifest Thy strength in me.

And when lonely in the garden, Fairest spot on earth to me, In the hour of bitter trial, Give Thy will the victory.

Give Thy will the victory.

When I'm tolling up the mountain,
Bearing there a cross for Thee,
Give me strength Thy will to finish,
Saviour, King of Calvary. AUNT CARRIE."

"I am very poor, but not too poor to give one-tenth
of my little income to the Lord as a thank-offering
for mercies bestowed. I did not know what to do
with so small an amount, but COMPORT came and
showed me that I could use it in postage, and write a
few letters as well as I could. I have suffered a
few letters as well as I could. I have suffered a
few a good plan if the invalids would unite in a service of
song on Sabbath morning, singing old time favorites
from Gospel Hymns, or even reading them. May the
Lord bless you all is the wish of
Mrs. R. E. Webb, Vermillion, Ohio."
I am sure that the Lord will bless your little offer-

I am sure that the Lord will bless your little offer-ing "In His Name," even as He blessed the widow's mite. You could not put it to a better use than for this work, of writing to the suffering and lonely ones.

mite. You could not put it to a better use than for this work, of writing to the suffering and lonely ones. "I am a poor deaf Shut-off, and my health is so bad that I hardly ever get out of my own door-yard. I have no near neighbors, for we live on a farm, and I have been stone-deaf for the past five years; there are so many noises in my head that I can tell no difference when standing within ten yards of a passing train of cars. A person who is not deaf cannot realize the loneliness and desolate life of a deaf person. It seems so hard to be shut off from the sweet songs of the birds, and what is worse than all, not to be able to hear my baby's prattle; he looks so pitiful sometimes when he is trying to make me understand something and cannot, and will go away with his little lip quivering. Many are the bitter tears that I have shed from this cause. Best wishes for COMFORT.

Mrs. K MORRIS, Victor, Mont."

"I want to thank the kind friend who sent me some help when it was so much needed; the Master will surely reward her when He comes to make up His jewels. How cheering to us Shut-Ins to receive letters and mementoes! it is a change in the daily routine of our lives. I am poor in this world's goods, but have faith to believe that the Lord will provide. I have been through the deep waters of affliction and it has brought me nearer to the Saviour, He says that those who endure to the end shail be saved. I would love to hear from all who would write.

Mrs. M. A. PROVOST,

Greenwich Ave., Stamford, Conn."

"As you wished to know more about the Hot Pots which I mentioned in my first letter, I will give a

Greenwich Ave., Stamford, Conn."

"As you wished to know more about the Hot Pots which I mentioned in my first letter, I will give a brief description of them. Many of these 'Pots' are pyramidal in form, and reach to the height of 10 to 56 feet, while others do not rise above the surface. The 'Big White Mound,' as it is called, is almost perpendicular, is 75 or 100 ft. high, about 300 ft. in diameter at the base, and 300 ft. at the top, the interior being about 20 ft. in diameter; its depth is not known. Most of the pots contain warm water, varying in temperature, but it is thought that it all emanates from the same source, evidently passing through strata of limestone in its subterranean course which causes it to become warm; when it reaches the surface, it evaporates and deposits its solid matter. Hence the mounds, which were without doubt hundreds of years in construction. Several of the pots are now dry. It is said that years ago, a man lost his life in one of them, which, it is believed, caused the pott odry out. The body was nevertaken out, but lies at the bottom in a petrified condition. It is presumed that the pots are more or less connected underneath the surface, for when driving about them, a sound is heard like distant thundering, which is a sign that the covering of the subterraneous water is very thin in places. A fine bath house, a large hotel, and a saloon, have recently been erected on the 'Big Hot Pot,' which is becoming quite famous as a pleasure resort. If any of the cousins would like information about Utah, I should be pleased to furnish it.

JOHN PROBST, Midway, Wasatch Co., Utah."

"Comport is a fine little paper. I enjoy Aunt Minerva's Chats best of any part, and was much in-

"Comport is a fine little paper. I enjoy Aunt Minerva's Chats best of any part, and was much interested in the Pictorial page. I am an invalid, though not an entire Shut-In: I have never known a

well day since childhood, but when my burden seems heavy, I can always see some one more sadly afflicted than myself, and that helps me to be more patient. My home is in a busy, thriving little town in northern Illinois, where the beautiful prairie farming country around us is exceedingly fine. I am wearing the silver cross I. H. N., and have been enrolled as a member of Mrs. Bottome's circle in New York. Why do the cousins never say anything about flowers? Is that a forbidden topic? It is one I am passionately fond of, having a window full of nice plants, and when my friends want to make me unspeakably happy, they bring me a new or choice plant. Of course many of the cousins do drawn work. I have done a great deal, which, with my writing each week, supports me, except board. May success ever attend COMFORT and its readers.

FLORA D. STEARNS, Hebron, Ill."

"I have been making some nice house jackets or

COMPORT and its readers.

FLORA D. STEARNS, Hebron, III."

"I have been making some nice house jackets or matinees, and will tell you about them, in the hope that those who, like myself, cannot wear tight dress waists, may be benefited by the description. An old white albatross dress furnished material for two. Half the goods was dyed a delicate pink with weak eosine dye, and the other half dyed lavender with diluted violet dye. They are both made like long basques, with coat fronts and loose, full vests. The pink one has a vest of cream surah, and is edged down the fronts of the coat part and around the neck and sleeves, with ruchings of fringed silk. The lavender one has a vest of yellow China silk, and collar, cuffs, and revers of violet velvet, embroidered with yellow and violet pansies. One yellow and one lavender ribbon confine it at the waist. The velvet was old, and the silk was a remnant. Another one is made of crimson rep, with a vest of black silk, and collar and cuffs of black velvet. The rep was the back breadths of an old wrapper. My last one was made of some half cotton brocade silk (?) which was originally black, but had become a rusty brown. A bath of black by for cotton, made it a fresh black color. It has a vest of scarlet China silk (an old wrapper front) and is feather-stitched with scarlet silk. These jackets are so comfortable and handy that everybody, sick or well, ought to have several. They are made so they can be put on over a night-dress. I hope some one will be moved by my description to get up one for themselves or for some invalid friend.

These suggestions are delightfully practical, and will surely prove useful to some one of our band. It

valid friend.

These suggestions are delightfully practical, and will surely prove useful to some one of our band. It is one of the trials of partial invalidism, not to be able to dress "like other folks"; but the neat and pretty jackets which Jean Hunt describes are at once stylish and comfortable. Outing cloth trimmed with coarse white or ecru lace make very pretty and inexpensive matinees, as does also the canton flannels which can now be found in such dainty shades.

pretty Jackets which Jean Hunt describes are at once coarse white or ceruse. On the coarse white or ceruse of the coarse of the word, as I have not known a well day in nineteen years. I am called very patient, perhaps long suffering has brought about this condition. Reading the Bible does not make me sad, but I like other reading, and read all the good novels I can get. I am thankful to have the use of my hands and eyes. I can knit and sew: can knit almost anything. I am not a pauper, but would be glad for some pieces of sike or plush for my quilt. or reading matter. Coarse of the coarse of th

If any ladies wish crocheting or knitting done, and will write me with stamp, I can generally give them the name of some worthy Shut-In who needs the work; those wishing such work please send me their names with references as to their reliability. Please do not forget what I said in the last paper in regard to references. I will now call the attention of the cousins to

OUR OPPORTUNITIES OF DOING GOOD.

E. Tarbell, Mosiertown, Crawford Co., Penn., (reading and help.)

James Gillian, Treadway, Hawkins Co., Tenn.,

James Gillian, Treadway, Hawkins Co., (belp.)
Mrs. O. Roke, La Porte, Calif.. (reading and help.)
Mrs. Emma Jacoway, South Pittsburg, Tenn.
I. I. Lee, 46 Wheatland Ave., Dorchester, Mass.
Anna Morris, Box 16. Charlesville, Penn.

I will now close the column with the

COMFORT BIRTHDAY LIST FOR SHUT-INS.

COMFORT BIRTHDAY LIST FOR SHUT-INS.

Mrs. E. Jones, Alexander City, Ala., Oct. 4.

Ben C. Knight, Enfield, N. C., Oct. 21.

I shall publish each month only the birthdays occuring in that month and the next; but those who send names and dates to me may be assured that they are carefully kept, and will appear at the proper time. Each column is made up about two months before publication, so that letters must be sent in a long time ahead. I will explain, for the benefit of those who do not know about the Birthday List, that those whose names appear are worthy invalids, and would like to receive letters and little presents to make their birthdays pleasant.

With loving wishes for all, AUNT MINERVA.

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"A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRESS.

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All stories must be original and contributors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 1200 or less than 800 words. No manuscript will be returned unless an addressed and stamped envelope is enclosed.

The writer of the best original story will receive \$20 cash; of the second best, \$15 cash; of the third best, \$10 cash and of the fourth best, \$5 cash.

The prize winners for October are:
R. Hovey Dodge, \$20. Cora V. Scott, \$10.
Edith Ray Spencer. \$15. Silas Colbey, \$5.

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HIGH PRICED MUSIC.



November, 1851, when Jim Car with wife and all his worldly possessions landed at "LuckyStrike" mining camp, in Grass Valley, California. He had bought out a saloon there, and his coming was a matter of interest and import-

miners, who gathered around to watch the unloading of his household goods. His wife was regarded with cur-

iosity, as many of the men had not seen a woman for two years, and Lucky Strike felt that it had gained in importance by Mrs. Carter's arrival.

Among the furniture unloaded from the lumbering

cart, was a good sized box that at once attracted great wonder.

"Guess he wont have no great call for a book case. ventured one of the men regarding it curiously.

"Taint no book-case; it's a bureau. I didn't live in

'Frisco fer nothing," said another scornfully.

Jim Carter paid but little attention to their remarks, until a burly looking fellow suggested that,

"it looked more like a coffin than anything." Then Carter said, "Well, seein' you're so anxious

bout that box I'll give you a look at it," and prying off the top, and clearing away the packing, he stood back to let the crowd see the contents.

"A shout of laughter, after their first puzzled look went up from the astonished group.

"A melodeon in Lucky Strike," yelled one of the men, and a dozen offers of assistance in setting it up were mingled with their exclamations of delight and wonder.

Mrs. Carter was entirely forgotten in this new cause for pride. Everyone seemed to feel a sense of possession in the melodeon, and it was only after much discussion that it was properly placed, and its owner gazed upon it with satisfaction.

"Now, I reckon some of you fellows can work this machine?" he said looking questioningly about him. But no response came.

Carter had brought a man with him who could play the fiddle, and he had calculated on the melo-deon to complete his orchestra.

The saloon prospered but no one could be found who could play upon the melodeon. Carter began to fear that he had made a losing investment.

The report got about the camp that one of the miners had told a friend, in confidence, that he could "knock no end of music out of that melodeon if he could get it alone for awhile." This news spread rapidly, but on being questioned the miner vowed he

couldn't play a note. Thanksgiving day drew near, and Carter decorated his saloon with branches of pine and evergreens. The melodeon was covered with evergreens, and as Carter completed his work of decorating, he thought that all that was needed was someone to play the

"I'm willing to pay big money if I can get this thing going just for to-night. Look at that if you don't believe me," he said, pointing to a large sign hanging over the instrument:

\$100.00 For a MELODEON PLAYER.

But midnight came and the musician was still absent; though the merriment and dancing went on to the music of the fiddle, whose squeaky notes tried to silence the noise of the storm outside.

Their hilarity was interrupted by the sudden ap pearance of an old man. His clothes were drenched with rain, his white hair fell about his thin face, and the half-frightened, half-crazed expression with murderer, but the mystery remained unsolved.

which he looked about him cast a gloom over the merry-makers.

Carter watched the man anxiously for a moment and then mixing a glass of hot whiskey, went up to him and said heartily, "Have a drink stranger!"

The man drained the glass, and drew nearer the "Mighty bad night for Thanksgiving aint it?"

continued Carter. The old fellow looked about at the decorations with

a startled look.

"November 27th." he said.

"That's about it."
"I had forgotten," he said slowly. "Hungry?" questioned one of the men.

The old man nodded.

"How long have you been on the tramp?" continued

his questioner.
"Three days," was the weary answer; then looking up the old man noticed the melodeon.

"Who plays that?" he asked.

"Nobody," said Carter. "Do you?" 'Years ago I used to play some."

In a moment he was surrounded by an eager group. 'Give us a tune, stranger," cried a dozen voices. "See that sign? Well, we'll make it two hundred if you'll play," called another.

The old man rose slowly.

"I'll try," he said.

Seizing a soap-box that would serve for a stool, he seated himself before the instrument.

Instantly a hush came over the room. The cards

were no longer shuffled, no one spoke, and the glasses stood untasted.

The old man passed his fingers over the keys. He gained confidence in a moment, and his listeners heard a succession of melodies such as they had never dreamed of. Then came the old hymn tune. that some of them had heard in their New England homes; the carols of the church, the well-known songs that recalled their childhood, their mother's voice, and the innocent happiness of the past, and as the strains of "Home, Sweet Home" filled the room, the men began to sneak away. They had no further wish for drinks.

The old man was tired, and rested heavily against the melodeon as he ceased playing.

"You want to take a sleep," said Carter, helping the old man to his feet. He walked feebly behind

the bar and stretched out on some old blankets.
"I'm a sick man. I shan't last 'till morning. got a brother-his name's Mason-in the valley. Can you get him?"

Carter knew Mason well.

his trail.

"I'll bring him in half an hour," he shouted as he sped out into the storm.

"I hope I'm in time," said Mason as they came into the saloon an hour later and went toward the pile of blankets. They saw that the stranger had pulled one over his head. For a moment they feared he was dead. Then Mason lifted the blanket. Gone," he shouted.

"Yes, gone!" exclaimed Carter as he rushed to the cash-drawer, "and six thousand dollars gone with

him!" The next day the entire camp, with one exception, was out searching for the robber, but they soon lost

The exception, the man who never returned to Lucky Strike, was the miner who had denied that he knew a note of music. A white wig found in the underbrush was the only memento left them.

R. HOVEY DODGE.

WAS SHE GUILTY?



of Granite Village were alarsight of smoke issuing from the windows of a cottage occupied by a Mrs. Leroy and her daughter. The neighbors hurried to the

house and rushed A terrible scene confronted the horrified people. The fire was confined to one room, the sleeping r of the woman and her child.

The room was in disorder, and upon the floor lay the bodies of Mrs. Leroy and her daughter, who had been brutally murdered.

There was evidence of a struggle, Mrs. Leroy' ands were tied with a handkerchief, and the murderer had set fire to the house hoping that it would be consumed and nothing left to tell the story of his

The news spread like wildfire. The premises were thoroughly searched for some further trace of the

Great was the surprise of the community when the father of the murdered woman demanded the arrest of Mrs. Lucy Tracey, a sister of Mrs. Leroy's husband, declaring that she had committed the murder. Her object, he said, was to secure a thousand dollars that Captain Leroy had left with his wife before go-

Upon looking for the money it was found hidden in the shed. It was thought probable that the murderer had tried to make the victim tell where the money was hidden, and on her refusal had beaten the woman to death and killed the child.

The assertion that Mrs. Tracev was the guilty party recalled her early history to the memory of her neighbors.

She had not lived happily with her husband, and they had separated. Later her husband married again, and one morning Mrs. Tracey 2nd was found dead in her bed. Her death had never been explained.

The accusation of Lucy Tracey suggested the thought that perhaps she was guilty of not only the death of the Leroys but also of the murder of Mr. Tracey's second wife.

The excitement in the little village was intense

But one desire actuated them, to discover and punish the murderer. Urged on by the charges of Mrs. Leroy's father a warrant was obtained for the arrest of Lucy Tracey.

Her house was surrounded by the excited people, a

thorough search was made, but she could not be found. She was traced to New York and in a pawn shop were found several pieces of jewelry that had been the property of Mrs. Leroy and had been pawned by Mrs. Tracey after the tragedy.

She was finally arrested, and, although protesting her innocence, appearances were against her and she was taken to Port Richmond to be tried for murder.

Was she guilty? If circumstantial evidence, and appearance of guilt ever weighed heavily against any one, poor

Lucy Tracey knew their utmost limit. There was apparently no hope for her. At the

coroners inquest she contradicted herself. She declared she had not been to the house of her sister-in-law for several weeks, and had not seen

her for days. Later she said that she saw Mrs. Leroy on the day

before the murder.

These assertions, her sudden flight from Granite Village and the pawned jewelry, were considered sufficient evidence to hold her for trial for murder.

Public feeling was strong against her, and Lucy Tracey had but little sympathy or assistance in this struggle to prove her innocence. Her children and a few friends believed in her and stood by her, but there seemed little hope for her.

Her trial at Port Richmond lasted for days. The best counsel that could be obtained was engaged for both sides.

It was proved that Mrs. Tracey left her home at dusk on the evening of the murder and did not return. It seemed impossible that the accused had even the faintest chance of acquittal.

The woman listened in agonized suspense for the rdict and when the jury disagreed, and she found that a new trial was before her, her courage revived for she still declared her innocence and had faith that if time was given, it could be proved.

The people had become so prejudiced against her that it was considered best to apply for a change of venue to another county. The request was granted, and when Lucy Tracey came into court again it was with the cries of a howling mob following her. A mob who believed her guilty and would have lynched her if she had fallen into their hands.

Dressed in deep mourning she took her place in the prisoner's box, and with a fortitude and dignity worthy of respect awaited her fate.

No new evidence was produced in this new trial, and again the jury could not agree and Mrs. Tracey returned to her prison. Resolute but undefiant she waited the third trial, which took place a year later in another county.

When arrested Lucy Tracey was in the prime of life. But when she came before the jury for her third trial, she was bowed with grief and looked as if her life was nearly ended.

She apparently had lost interest in the result of this last trial, and seemed to shrink from the gaze of the people who thronged the court room.

Her heart-rending sobs could be heard when there was a lull in the proceedings of the court; and the woman's pitiable condition roused almost a feeling of pity among even those who believed her guilty.

The jury acquitted her, and she left the court room a free woman.

Free, but with no earthly happiness remaining for her; bowed under disgrace and anguish she only wished to avoid the world, and in the seclusion of her home to sink out of sight and recollection.

For forty-five years after her acquittal she lived with her faithful children who ever believed her innocent. She had no wish for vengeance against those who wrecked her life, but pitied and forgave them and asserting her innocence to the end, gave up the life that had brought her only suffering.

This narrative is not one of imagination. It is true Its tragedy, sorrow and uncertainty were the experiences of real life.

The story is that of Polly Bodine, who lived with arrested for murder, tried in the courts of three different counties, at Port Richmond, June 30, 1844, at New York, March 24, 1845, before Judge Evans, and again at Newburg where she was acquitted.

But she was not acquited by public opinion, and for early fifty years lived under the shadow of the terrible accusation.

She died in July, 1892, her innocence was believed in by the few, doubted by the many, and the question remains unanswered.

Was She Guilty?

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(Nutshell Stories concluded on page 7.)

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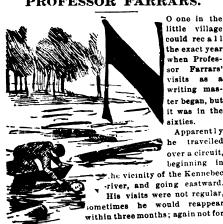


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THE NUTSHELL STORY CLUB CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.

PROFESSOR FARRARS.



ter began, but was in the sixties. Apparently he travelled over a circuit. beginning in vicinity of the Kennebed river, and going eastward. His visits were not regular, ometimes he would reappear within three months; again not for as many years.

His quiet, unannounced manner of coming and go-

ing, his reticence as to his own history, were very aggravating to the villagers. The secret of his home, if he had any, was profoundly kept; even his name was never fully divulged, "Professor Farrars" being all they knew of him. This reticence concerning him-self was the more strange because the Professor was naturally a very talkative old fellow; delighted when he could find willing ears to listen while he discoursed on the many wonders he had seen, on the books he had read, or better still, the art of penmanship, its past, present and future. He knew every-body in the village even the little children. On his return after an absence of a few months, he would call upon each family; asking this one about his cow, complimenting that one upon the erection of a new fence, and advising the young school teacher to keep up his study of Latin; and patting the heads of the boys and girls as they ran up to him, for with the children he was a great favorite. He would swing the rope for the girls and make kites for the boys.

Among the Professor's pupils was a lad named Frank Lewis, an active, mischievous boy, and the quiet of the school was often disturbed by an illsuppressed titter, caused by Frank's slyly pinning a paper to the Professor's coat, or by a pen and ink caricature too faithfully representing his bald head

and prominent nose.
Of course the old man was annoyed, but he was blessed with a gentle spirit and endured his persecution without complaint.

One spring the Professor came back to the village from his usual circuit. His few locks of hair had be-come white and his hand trembled. He seemed to realize that he was losing his remarkable skill in penmanship, and was quiet and apparently depressed.
Frank Lewis was the same mischievous boy, and attempted many tricks upon the patient old man.

A heavy rain began falling the Sunday after the Professor's arrival and continued through the next day. But on Tuesday the sun shone out from a cloudless sky, and filmy white mists rose from every hollow in the hills.

The storm was over, but its echo seemed to linger to the north of the village. It was the noise of the

waters in the creek, nearly a mile away.

"There's a big 'run-out' in the creek," someone said, and almost the entire population went up to watch it. It was a foamy, yellow torrent, suddenly wollen with the heavy rains. A boom, to catch floating timber, was stretched from bank to bank. It was of heavy logs bound together with massive fron links. When seen at low water it appeared able to withstand any force, but in the raging waters of that freshet, with the enormous pressure of the drift of logs against it, it seemed miraculous that it should hold together for a moment. Yet, dangerous as it appeared, a few sturdy lumbermen were upon it with their poles attempting to clear the drift.

It was a dangerous business. Sometimes a log would be suddenly thrown upward from the drift, slide over the boom, and fall with an angry splash in the waters below.

Even the lumbermen realized their unsafe position and returned to shore. They could do nothing more to save the timber.

Frank Lewis had been watching them with fixed at tention, and now stepped upon the boom from the opposite shore, and began to walk across.

Men halloed to him to go back, but he paid no attention to them.

A log slid up from the boom directly in front of him. He lightly leaped over it as it moved, and then bowed low to the spectators on the banks, as a gymnast after a difficult feat.

No danger could be more imminent. On one side was a heaving mass of driftwood, on the other a farious torrent.

He knew the people were horrified, and he imagined his foolhardiness would be termed courage.

Suddenly there came a sharp report like the dis charge of a rifle. One of the iron links had snapped, the boom parted and with a gr timbers shoved the barrier aside.

The boy had been tossed from the boom in advance of the debris. But he retained his coolness and swam with the current, trying to keep his distance from the heaving mass behind him.

Then an old man leaped down the bank into a skiff and pulled toward the swimmer.

It was the Professor!

In times past the boys had laughed at him for lifting his oars so high out of the water-now they glorified him. The Professor kept his boat to one side, but almost every moment a log would strike the frail craft. But the old man managed well, and before the mouth of the creek was reached he had helped Frank into the skiff. The danger seemed over. Once in the gentler current the boat could be easily managed.

Young Lewis was sitting exhausted in the bow of the boat, the Professor still standing over him. During the rescue the logs had surrounded them. Some that had been sucked under would rise to the surface with great force. One of these struck the skiff, and glancing along the side hit the old man with such force as to stun him.

Luckily Frank saved him from going overboard, and laying him down seized the oars and rowed for the shore. The Professor was still unconscious when

the boat was pulled up on the sand. Upon examination it appeared that his spine was injured, and in a few hours he was dead.

Upon looking over his papers it was found that he had a married daughter in New Hampshire.

A telegram was sent to her and the order came to have the body sent there for burial. Everybody in the village escorted the casket to the steamboat that was to carry it away; for all felt that Professor Farrars was as much one of them as if he had been born and reared in the little village.

The act of heroism that cost him his life, won him

the reverence and affection of all, and his memory is still tenderly cherished.

CORA V. SCOTT.

BATHING THE ELEPHANTS.



EVERY 4th of July, Boston Common, that magnificent park in the heart of the city, is a sight to behold. While of all days of the year one on which all =,he city people who

can get away go to the country, it is the one on which thousands of country people make their annual visit to the city. They all come in the spirit of the great national holiday, and they celebrate it in true patriotic fashion. They visit Bunker Hill monument, Fancuil Hall, "the cradle of liberty," the Old South Church, and all the other points of historic interest in which Boston so richly abounds. But it is on the grand old Common that they congregate in all their vast numbers. Here may be seen every form of out-of-door amusement, while the playing of the bands is constant and the noise of the Fourth of July boy fills the air. Booths and tents of every decription are placed along the shaded walks, and lemon-ade, pie, cake, ice cream and all sorts of refreshments are dealt out to the hungry and thirsty throng. The people roam over the beautiful lawns, stretch themselves beneath the spreading elms and give themselves up to that perfect freedom that marks the celebration of the glorious Fourth.

From the broad and open parade ground they witness at night the gorgeous display of fireworks which brings to a fitting close the day of all others in the year on which Boston Common is given up without restraint to the people. But how great the change in its appearance afterwards! The broad paths, the lovely lawns and the open fields are swept and garnished and not until another year comes round does anything unusual occur within the borders of the old Common. To this, however, there is always one exception. To the Boston small boy circus day, next to the Fourth of July, is the red-letter day of the year. The street parade, with all the gorgeous trap-

to the Fourth of July, is the red-letter day of the year. The street parade, with all the gorgeous trappings of the modern circus, brings out in force the "small boy" brigade, and he looks with open-mouthed interest upon the wonderful sights it affords. But it is really to the old Common that his heart is turned, for does he look know that the elephants will be bathed in the famous frog pond, as soon as the street parade is fluished?

Thousands of hors and girls of all descriptions, rich and poor, dirty and clean, ragged and well-dressed, congregate around the frog-pond and await the arrival of the elephants. Presently they are seen moving majestically across the Common towards their bathing place. Amid shouts of welcome they plunge into the bath. Their splashing and blowing, and almost human antics convulse the urchins, who stand around the borders of the pond in a state of excited glee, shouting their approval of the exhibition and receiving momentarily a torrent of water from the uplifted trunks of the huge animals. At the conclusion of the bath the trainers conduct the elephants to their quarters at the circus, followed by the still excited throng of "Young America." Fourth of July may be the people's day on the Common, but the small boy's day is that on which the elephants are bathed in the old frog pond. It is the day of the urchins' freedom, and it may well be celebrated within sight of the birthplace of Benjamin Frankin and across the street from the spot where lived John Hancock, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and within the precincts of the historic city where liberty first received its recognition.

Sillass Colleger.

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A manufacturer has placed a new style Typewriter in our hands to introduce and we are going to give one Thousand away to advertise the machines by having people show them to friends. The style type used is same as on high priced machines. Any one wishing one sent to them to keep or sell is as a matter of good faith only required to forward us two yearly subscribers to "Comfort" at 25c. and we send the machine all charges paid. Those writing first to Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine, will be sure of getting a machine early, and as Typewriting is the coming business for young people to engage in this is a rare offer for them.

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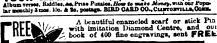
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The last rose of summer has given way to the and chrysanthemum, those Autumn beauties, about which an interesting article will appear in our November issue.

The reader of Comfort who fails to peruse the prize stories begun in this issue under the head of The Nutshell Story Club, will miss a rare treat, and every non-reader who fails to promptly provide himself with a year's Com-FORT at the trivial cost of 25 cents, will miss a

A thoughtful and observant writer has said that the unselfish mother makes a selfish child. Her unceasing devotion develops a feeling in the petted son or daughter, that such service is due; and endless calls upon "mother" from babyhood to mature age, deprive her of the leisure that is the right of every human being. She must know just where "everything" is belonging to every member of the family. She must be at hand to rectify the trouble caused by some one's forgetfulness or carelessness. She must, in short, be the white slave of husband and children, while her brain goes unnourished, her intellect starves and her physical strength gives way in needless toil. The mother should insist on every member of her household's having a personal responsibility for its own possessions, just as soon as babyhood has been outgrown. It is better for mother and infinitely better for the child.

Commencing October 19th the ceremonies of dedication of the World's Fair, which will be held in Chicago, will last three days. The first event will be a reception given to the President, his Cabinet and other distinguished guests. On the second day the civic display will take place, consisting of a mammoth parade of innumerable civic societies. This procession, which will be emblematic of the triumphs of peace and industry, will be reviewed by the President. In the evening a superb water pageant will pass through the waterways and lagoons of the exposition grounds, which latter will at night be flooded with electric light. Each of the vessels will be modelled after the exact naval construction of the age which will be depicted in brilliant tableaux upon its decks, and the various periods and races to be represented are: The Aboriginal Age, representing the American Indians; the Stone Age, representing the cliff dwellers; the Age of Metal, representing the Aztecs, their manners, customs and religious rites; Columbus at the Court of Ferdinand and Isabella; the Departure of Columbus from Palos: the Discovery of America; the Return of Columbus, presenting natives and strange products before the Court. Following this will be represented the English Cavaliers and the settlement of Jamestown; Henry Hudson's Discovery of the Hudson River, also the Dutch Settlement at New Amsterdam; the Landing of the Pilgrims and an illustration of early Puritan Life. Then Ferdinand de Soto and the plorers, Marquette, LaSalle and the opening of the Great Northwest. Next the Colonial perlod; Washington and his generals; the Signing of the Declaration of Independence; the Thirteen original States; the sisterhood of the great republic, welcoming the Territories to the constellation of States; the Great West; the Genius of Invention, steam, electricity, etc.; War, representing valor, sacrifice, power, death and devastation; Peace, representing tranquillity, security, prosperity and happiness. Then the various pursuits of man; Agriculture, Mining, Science, Art and Literature, and finally, the Universal Brotherhood of Man, equal rights, justice for all, and liberty enlightening

From an historical point of view this procession of the ages will be highly instructive, while

ident, his Cabinet, members of the Supreme Court and of both branches of Congress, distinguished foreign guests, Governors of States, etc., will be escorted by detachments of the regular army and of the militia to the immense building of Manufactures and Liberal Arts. In the afternoon the exercises will consist of music and singing, the report of the Director General and other World's Fair officials, the dedication of the buildings by the President; closing with an oration by Dr. Chauncy M. In the evening a specially unique display of electrical effects and fireworks will be given, together with a repetition of the boat tableaux of the previous night.

The exercises of the fourth day will be notable, as they will be devoted to military maneuvers conducted upon such a colossal scale as to furnish a most magnificent spectacle and an aweinspiring object-lesson of the mighty power of the American nation.

Facts About the Cholera.

How PEOPLE CATCH IT .- How TO PREVENT, AND HOW TO CURE IT.

The prevalence of cholera in foreign countries, together with the fact that thousands of emigrants are at present detained on cholera infested ships at quarantine in New York harbor, render it vitally important that everyone should heed the following suggestions and advice.

Don't drink unboiled water. Thorough cook ing destroys the cholera germs. Don't eat raw. uncooked articles of any kind, not even milk Don't eat or drink to excess. Use plain, wholesome, digestible food, as indigestion and diarrhea favor an attack of cholera. Don't eat or handle food or drink with unwashed hands. or receive it from the unwashed hands of others. Don't employ utensils in eating and drinking unless they have been recently put in boiling ater; the more recently the safer.

Healthy persons catch cholera by taking the germs of the disease into their systems, through the mouth, as in food or drink, or from their hands, knives, forks, plates, tumblers, clothing, etc. The germs are also always present in the discharges from the stomach and bowels of those sick with cholera; therefore, don't use the hands for any purpose when soiled with cholera discharges; thoroughly cleanse them once. Personal cleanliness, cleanliness of the living and sleeping rooms and their contents, and thorough ventilation should rigidly enforced, and foul waterclosets, sinks, cellars, etc. should be avoided and when present should be promptly disinfected with the solution of carbolic acid and water mentioned below, and referred to the physician, who will suggest further remedies.

Delays are dangerous, both to the patient and to the community. Common-sense demands that the earliest symptoms of this disease be promptly recognized and properly treated. Don't doctor yourself for bowel complaint, but go to bed and send for a doctor at once. If taken suddenly ill out of doors, go to the nearest neighbor and await the arrival of a physi-

Don't permit vomit or diarrhœal discharges to come in contact or proximity to food, drink or clothing. These discharges should be received in proper vessels and kept covered until removed under competent directions. Pour boiling water upon them, put a strong solution of carbolic acid in them (not less than one part of acid to twenty of hot soap-suds or water). Don't wear, handle or use any clothing or furniture soiled with cholera discharges. boiling water upon them or put them into it and scrub them with the carbolic acid solution recommended above.

Don't sleep in damp beds or damp rooms. Don't wear damp clothing. Keep the body, and particularly the feet, warm. Don't get frightened. Lead a careful but "natural" life. Should it be impossible to obtain prompt medical advice, the Sun Cholera Mixture, the formula of which appeared in July Comfort and which is here republished, is a remedy approved and valued by all medical men.

THE SUN CHOLERA MIXTURE.

THE SUN CHULERA MATAURE.

Take equal parts of tincture of cayenne, tincture of opium, tincture of rhubarb, essence of peppermint and spirits of camphor. Mix well. Dose, lifteen to thirty drops in a wine glass of water, according to age and violence of the attack. Repeat every fifteen or twenty minutes until relief is obtained.

HINTS ON HOME COMFORT.

To get rid of the smell of oil paint let a pailful of water stand in the room newly painted.

To prevent the smoking of a lamp soak the vick in strong vinegar, and dry well before using it. The flame will then burn clear and bright.

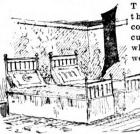
Fever-blisters when they are allowed to develop are very painful and most disfiguring; and yet they can easily be cured in the beginning by keeping a ball of saltpetre on hand and at their first appearance moistening the ball with water and rubbing it on the spot.

To break a piece of window glass to any required figure, make a small notch by means of a file on the edge of the glass, then draw a redhot iron rod the thickness of a pipe-stem slowly along the surface of the glass in any direction you please. A crack will follow the direction of the iron.

Water of every kind, except rain water, will speedily cover the inside of a teakettle with an unpleasant crust; this may easily be guarded sion of the ages will be highly instructive, while as a spectacle it will be superb.

On the third day the ceremony of the Dedication of the Fair will commence at dawn with the notional salute. In the forenoon the Present in the salute, and the salute is good order, by attracting the particles of earth or of stone.

THE TWIN BED.



T is not often that fashion comes to the res cue of health and when she does we should be humbly humbly grateful and yield unquestioning o bedience to her dic-

tates. The fashion of "twin-beds" is much to be commended on the score of health, and no fashion has more quickly obtained a firm hold. In comparatively few homes is it possible that every member of the family should have a separate sleeping room, yet all medical authorities agree that two persons should never sleep in one bed. The older absorbs the vitality of the younger the stronger draws strength from the weaker, or else both suffer. By discarding the oldfashioned double bed and replacing it by two narrow ones, hardly any space is sacrificed while the health is benefited. A favorite style with those who can afford it is the brass bedstead, which is charming in effect but expensive. Quite as pretty is the white enamelled iron bedstead with brass knobs, costing not a quarter as much as the brass. The latter may be bought for eight or ten dollars with the mattrass. But even cheaper and capable of exquisitely dainty effect, is the ordinary wooden cot costing about two dollars or even less. With a curtain of delicately flowered cretonne tacked all around the frame, ruffled spread and pillow to match, the two little beds standing side by side, present an attractiveness never dreamed of by the large bedstead.

True, you may argue that you have the one and cannot afford to discard it and buy new ones, no matter how inexpensive. But think a moment. Can you afford to be wasting health and strength night after night year after year, when so slight an outlay would enable you to rise with renewed vigor after a refreshing night's sleep? That you have a small income and are compelled to work hard for a living, is the strongest possible reason why you should take especial care of your health. Breadwinners should remember that only the rich can

FACTS ABOUT INVENTORS.



OMEBODY once said "The majority is always wrong." While this, of course, isn't strictly true, the fact is, only a very small

number of people understand any particular subject well enough to pass a critical opinion upon it, compared to the entire mass of the population engaged in other pursuits.

Take, for example, the many inventions which the earth's greatest geniuses have brought forth. These men, during their lifetime, were branded with the names of cranks and lunatics, and in judging of the usefulness and practicability of their discoveries the world at large has been almost always wrong. Think of the genius of the "lunatic" who discovered steam, or the "madman" who made the wires carry messages (for these were the names the people and newspapers of the time called them). Why, the first steamboat was called "Fulton's Folly." lessons of the past ought to warn us all not to pass too hasty a judgment or discourage genius.

That marvellous repeating arm, the Maxim rapid-fire gun, which bears the inventor's name and is in use on some of our new steel cruisers, has a mechanism which is as near perpetual motion as we seem likely to get, inasmuch as after being once fired the gun by its recoil again loads and fires itself, and so continues indefinitely at the rate of several hundred shots per minute until the supply of cartridges gives out or it should meet with one which failed to ex-

The inventor of this gun has also set himself to studying the problem of navigating the air and has recently made some very interesting and novel experiments. He thinks the problem will be solved, and perhaps it will not be long before he, or some other clever American will make a discovery that will revolutionize all present modes of travel. When this day comes it is to be hoped that the inventor will not be called a "crank." In fact, at the present time a huge air-ship is almost completed in Chicago, and shortly is expected to make a trial trip. The invention is moreover claimed by scientific

men to be practicable.

Jules Verne's imaginary submarine boat, the Nautilus, is only a hundred years or so behind the fact, for we read of a craft of this kind now completed at Detroit, which bids fair to fulfill all expectations and requirements.

AN OCTOBER HINT.

This is the season when people are thinking about what monthlies they will subscribe for to keep them in good cheer during the coming Winter. Comfort offers special attractions in premiums for club getters, as well as matters of special interest to its readers.

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EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of all matter in this department.

publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may exceed the latter limit. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners. All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of COMPORT, Augusta, Maine.

LIST OF OCTOBER PRIZE WINNERS.

Delta Lamar, Henry T. Hall, Alice H. Corning,

Florence L. Llegge, R. K. Thomas. Edith A. Perry.

Each of the above will receive by mail a new electrotype of the prize monogram which appears in connection with his or her letter printed below.

EAR COMFORT FRIENDS:

EAR COMFORT FRIENDS:

I am going to give you an agreeable surprise this month, by not taking up any of the space myself. I know you would rather read the letters than anything I could say, and so I will proceed to them at once.

"I live about two miles from Jackson Park, where the World's Fair is to be held.
Excursions are running daily to the grounds from all over the U.S. The first carload of ornamental plants shipped by the Ponce-de-Leon Hotel of St. Augustine, Fla., has already arrived. It consists of nearly 900 plants, including several large palms. We are to have the "Progress," a large merchant whaler built in 1843, and one of the 37 whalers that sailed to the Arctics in 1871, when all but 5 were lost. She will be fully equipped with bomb guns, harpoons, and all the implements of whaling. An old sailor who sailed her on many voyages, will come with her. R. K. Thomas, Fernwood, Chicago."
"I am a young man 21 years old, and have lived on

with her. R. K. Thomas, Fernwood, Chicago."

"I am a young man 21 years old, and have lived on the farm all my life. I think that the farm is the place for boys and girls, where they are away from the evil temptations of the city. It is claimed that many young men who would have had a bright future before them, have ruined and are ruining themselves with strong drink. When a man is aware that he is destroying and ruining himself, and yet still continues to drink, he has not sufficient will power to quit it, and hence would not have the power to become great. I would be glad to correspond with a few cousins.

This is a good point, and although I believe with

few cousins.

DAKOTA BLIZZARD."

This is a good point, and although I believe with all my heart in the suppression of the liquor traffic, I also believe that a man who has not énough will power to quit drinking in the carly stages of the habit, when there are constantly before his eyes such awful examples of the results of this indulgence, would never be worth much to the world under any circumstances. A man who will deliberately allow himself to be made a slave to the worst kind of a master, and a slave for all eternity, is lacking in self respect and moral courage. Yet we should all do everything in our power to save even so weak a brother.

everything in our power to save even so weak a brother.

"How I wish Comfort was a semi-monthly, so that we could hear from our cousins oftener. I wish I could shake hands with you, dear Aunt, you are just the right person in the right place. I heartily agree to all that has been said about King Alcohol and his confederates, tobacco and profanity. Dear cousins, do you know the evil which results from the use of tobacco? Not long ago I read these significant facts about the use of tobacco by boys. In an experimental observation of 88 boys of all classes of society, and of average health, who had been using tobacco for a period ranging from 2 months to 2 years, 27 showed severe injury to the constitution and inefficient growth; 32 showed the existence of irregularity of the hearts action, disordered stomach, cough, and a craring for alcohol; 13 had intermittency of the pulse, and 1 had consumption. In 6 months after leaving off tobacco, 1-2 were free from all the former symptoms, and the remainder had recovered by the end of the year. What a warning this is to us! It is strange what an attraction these filthy habits have for young men; they seem to have the unaccountable notion that such habits impart a manly dignity to their appearance. They labor through the deadly sickness of learning to smoke or chew, in order to render themselves offensive and disagreeable to every pure-minded girl who holds her favors at the value she ought. Why will not more of our pretty, high-bred American ladies set a standard of purity up to which their male friends must come, to be worthy of their favor.

worthy of their favor.

WILEY L. SIFFORD, Manning, N. C."

"The discussions on the subject of what to read have interested me very much, and perhaps I can give a few points. I would advise any one who cannot read the best authors with pleasure, to cultivate a taste for them. Talking over a book with a friend who is fond of it will help ronderfully to make you like it. If once you come to admire an author's style, you will not stop until you have read every book he ever wrote. Do cultivate Dickens, He has writing some of the best and purest books to be found in any other of his works. Read 'David Copperfield' first. There is more plot with less attention paid to style, than in any other of his works. Read 'The Cricket on the Hearth' and 'A Christmas Carol,' and see if then you will not be ready for 'Dombey and Son' and 'Pickwick Papers.' Read Irving and Mark Twain and Cooper and Hawthorne, and Louise Alcott. I am 19, and I am as much in love with her books as I was at II.

The above is most excellent advice. If young people would only cultivate a taste for the standard

The above is most excellent advice. If young people would only cultivate a taste for the standard authors, instead of filling their minds with so many trasby novels, we should have a different type of men and women in the next generation. It is of no use to try to keep up with modern fiction. Remember the saying of the "Sage of Concord": "When I see a new

book advertised, I go to my library and read an old one."

book advertised, I go to my library and read an old one."

New Haven, Conn., August 25, 1892.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—In all the letters that come to you from various parts of the country containing the opinions of many bright writers upon many different matters, nothing has been more interesting to me than the discussion of the subject of temperance. While I have the greatest respect for the frank and outspoken opinions of a sincere mind, I cannot agree with the views expressed by a writer in the last number of COMPORT in reference to the use of intoxicating liquors.

The natural craving of the human system for stimulant is universal. In some form or another every man indulges this appetite. He may not drink alcoholic liquors, but the effect which the habitual use of tea, coffee or tobacco has upon him is the same as that which spirituous liquors have upon others. I have known many so-called temperance people who were most intemperate in their use of other than intoxicating beverages and whose physical health has been nearly ruined by excessive drinking of tea and coffee. Their nervous systems have been weakened, their digestion impaired and the habit of over indulgence in these powerful stimulants become so fixed that the strength of will required to throw it off has been lost. The moderate use of these drinks is beneficial and healthful. It is in their immoderate use that danger lies.

All that may be said in favor of these other beverages applies with equal force to the use of intoxicating liquors, and particularly to light wines and been lost. The moderate use of these drinks is beneficial and healthful. It is in their immoderate use that danger lies.

All that may be said in favor of these other beverages applies with equal force to the use of intoxicating liquors, and particularly to light wines and been france, not to speak of our own country, are living witnesses to the truth of this statement. In many of the older countries the native wines are habitually drunk and are regarded as necessary an element of

sides should have a fair hearing, and we giarly give space to so able and respectful a letter as the above.

"I promised to tell you how I received my name of Wisconsin Wild Bill. I got I in Holland, as I said before. All the men who work on the dykes have nicknames, by which they are known near and far; and as I was so interested in the building of these dykes, I was among the men a good deal, watching them work, and became acquainted with them. They questioned me a good deal about America, and I told them of some of my adventures, so they came to the conclusion that it is rather a wild country over here. They thought that I was even wilder than the country, so they named me 'Wiskonsin Wilde Willem,' or in English, 'Wisconsin Wild Bill.' And I was also to tell you how they get the water off the land in Holland. Perhaps you thought that the water is always higher than the land, but at certain seasons of the year the outgoing tides leave the land the highest. Then the great gates which are in the dykes, are opened, and the water which has been gathering together by means of ditches from over the whole land into one small lake, is let out into the ocean. When the water has all run off, the gates are again closed.



speak to the other. Among themselves they are generally social and good-natured.

WISCONSIN WILD BILL."

"I read Western Student's letter in July Comport, and cannot stand by with my hands in my pockets looking on, without saying something, while the poor lindian is getting such a terrible raking. I feel sure that many of the cousins will take the Indian's side of the question, and make it very hot for Western Student. He seems to think the Indian was born to be chased by the bloodhound and rifle. He says they will steal, drink, gamble, and make their wives do all the work. This may be true in many cases, but look at the white man! he is equally as bad, if not worse. Who taught the Indian to swear, drink, etc.? was it not his white brother? Western Student loses his memory when he says 'the Indians had made no advancement toward civilization. Does not history tell us that the Aztecs and Toltee Indians of Mexico were far advanced in civilization? They built citles and roads of fine workmanship, and engaged in agriculture to some extent. Of course the northern Indians were not as far advanced but had the whites any right to rob them of their home and hunting ground because they advocated hunting and fishing for a living? We believe in agriculture. Suppose some nation much stronger than we should sail to America and rob us of our homes, saying 'they will never become as highly civilized as we, why not kill them, to make room for our more advanced race? Would we not resort to treachery too, until our race had become extinct, as our poor Indian brother has done, trying to defend his home and the graves of his kindred? Why is it that the Indians are no farther advanced? it is because the Government keeps driving them from place to place to satisfy her citizens, who are continually asking for the Indians' land. This is the way the red man of the forest has been treated, and even worse, he has been shot down in cold blood for refusing to comply with the white man's demands. I would say to the cousins who are in favor o

Until the Golden Rule is the moving principle in the administration of Indian affairs, the unfortunate son of the forest will never fare any better than he

does now. Greed and dishonesty have too long ruled this branch of our Government, but the change does not seem to be on the horizon at present.

this branch of our Government, but the change does not seem to be on the horizon at present.

"I enjoy the cousins' letters immensely, and especially the independent way in which some of them express their opinions. By so doing, some gain the name of crank. Well, what is there about that name to be ashamed of? What would the world amount to if it were not for the so-called crank? The crank is a thing that turns something, it makes the wheels go round, it insures progress. Wouldn't be known as a crank? Why, bless you, the crank you despise will have his name enshrined in the hearts and on enduring granite, while nobody outside of your native town will know that you ever lived. Of course some cranks are crankier than others, but they are all needed. Harvey was a crank on the subject of the circulation of the blood; Columbus was a crank; Morse was a telegraph crank; Gideon and his followers must have been deemed cranks by the Midianites; the Sanhedrim esteemed and treated Jesus Christ as a crank and a fanatic. What is thought of these people at the present time? I think the cousins all know. We cannot all be cranks, but we can be one of the little cogs that are willing to be used—even by a crank. Oh, how the world needs earnest men, known by the world as cranks, on progress bent, political and moral evolutionists. I should be pleased to correspond with any of the cousins who are interested in temperance questions, the White Cross movement, etc.

M. Lock Box 936, Penn Yan, N. Y."

Had writer of above signed his name a monogram, would have been awarded.

Had writer of above signed his name a monogram, would have been awarded.

Had writer of above signed his name a monogram, would have been awarded.

"I did not suppose my articles on the Wisconsin Pearl Fishery would call forth so much interest as they have done. I have received letters of inquiry from Maine to Calift, and Minn. to Texas. Surely COMFORT's readers are widely scattered. I want to tell you what beautiful articles are manufactured from our river shells. I had hoped to tell you just the process, but as I am an invalid, cannot go out to ask about it. A fine grindstone is used, which has a sharp edge for cutting the shells into the desired ask about it. A fine grindstone is used, which has a sharp edge for cutting the shells into the desired leaves for brooches, long bars or serolls for lace pins, fanciful shapes for watch charms, large buckles for ladies' belts, etc. After the articles are shaped, the outer rough they are polished with pumice stone until they are as smooth they are as smooth as can be and shine. they are polished with pumice stone until they are as smooth as can be, and shine like burnished metal. This process brings out the colors, which are varied and be autiful. Pins and be autiful. Pins and the colors are made of the colors are made of the colors, which are varied and process are made of the colors. Take any pretty little shell, fill it with plaster arise wet with water, and insert as a safety pin so that the plaster hardens, it can easily be hooked or looked. Scallop shells from the sea make lovely pins we is an easier method of cleaning the shells and

way. Take any pretty little shell, fill it with plaster of paris wet with water, and inserta safety pin so that when the plaster hardens, it can easily be hooked or unhooked. Scallop shells from the sea make lovely pins There is an easier method of cleaning the shells, although not as satisfactory as grinding. Wash clean, lay in cold lye (not too strong). take out every day and scrape with a knife to remove the lime. When it is all off, lay them in strong vinegar, changing it several times. When you think they are well cleaned, wash in soap suds and polish on a soft cloth. To the lady who sent me a large box of shells from Florida, I want to say, God bless you and reward you for your kindness. Some one sent me a paper addressed thus: 'To our invalid sister, Box 93.' Dear friends, you can never know how that touched my heart and brought glad tears to my eyes. God bless you for thus taking me into your heart, and loving me for His sake who died that we might live.

Your sister, Box 93, Monroe, Wisc."

When so much pleasure may be given to another by such a simple act of kindness as the sending of a paper with a pleasant word, or the writing of a sympathetic letter, why do we withhold them? We ought to warmly thank our invalid sister for the pains she has taken to write all this description for us, to satisfy the curiosity of so many of COMPORT's readers.

"In a late number of COMPORT I noticed an allusion wantly thing year that he warms at he were the part of the paragraph."

Let some one write her a letter expressing our gratitude, a letter which she will not be expected to answer.

"In a late number of COMFORT I noticed an allusion by Aunt Minerva to that organization known as the Essay Club, and would like to say a few words in commendation thereof. Its objects, namely, the cultivation of a literary taste among its members, and the bestowal of the fee annually imposed to retain membership, upon some worthy object, certainly cannot be too highly estimated. A love of literature is something which should be fostered and encouraged to the utmost extent. In the present era, when there is such a tendency on the part of the literature to fall into conventional ruts, and to become 'mere echoes of the whims of public sentiment or the anomaly we call fashion,' this opportunity wherein the views may be broadened, should receive the hearty support and co-operation of all those who wish to see the cause of education carried steadily forward. The second object of the Club, the assistance rendered the poor and suffering, should appeal to all that is noblest and best in the heart of every individual.

"True charity, a plant divinely nursed, Fed by the love from which it rose at first, Thrives against hope, and, in the rudest scene, Storms but enliven its unfading green; Exuberant is the shadow its supplies, Its fruit on earth, its growth above the skies.' I would be pleased to correspond with a few cousins interested in literary pursuits.

FLORENCE L. LLEGGE, 41 North St., New Bedford, Mass."

"I am learning the printer's trade, and can understand very well why vou request that the letters

"I am learning the printer's trade, and can understand very well why you request that the letters should be written on only one side of the paper, as that is the way we get all our copy; it is necessary in order that there shall be no mistakes. I have followed your advice in regard to 'looking for something wonderful' for the past 2 years, and can say that there is nothing more interesting. I have found many wonderful things, both in art and nature. One of the most curious is an arrow-head which is before me as I write. It is 3-8 of an inch long, and as wide and sharp as my pen, made of the finest of flint. Among my specimens of nature are beautiful petrified wood, shells, etc.; but Nature herself is most wonderful of all. Will all lovers of Nature write to me. Will all lovers of Nature write to me. FRED LUX, Pekin, Ill." all.

The advice which I gave to the young folks might well be taken up by all, in the sense in which this nephew speaks. There are so many wonderful and beautiful things in God's world, if our eyes are only

"My home is near the foot of a rugged mountain in one of Utah's peaceful vales. There are many things of interest to a lover of nature in this vicinity. About 30 miles from here is a selenite cave, or deposit. The crystals are formed in many shapes and sizes, some pieces being several feet long and a foot or more thick, and as clear as glass. In going to this cave, we follow down a stream of clear mountain water, passing through what is called Capitol Wash, which is a narrow gorge or pass, with massive walls of solid rock rising on either side to a height of 400 or 500 ft. Some of these wails are covered with hieroglyphics, and in several places are caves in which have been found relies of much higher civilized tribes than roam over this region at the present day. In many places

found relies of much higher civilized tribes than roam over this region at the present day. In many places great basins have been formed at the foot of these walls by the water pouring over them, which it always does in the rainy seasons; the sprays from these mountain torrents can be felt at a great distance. I would like to correspond with those interested in literature, history, or nature.

DELTA LAMAR, Fremont, Wayne Co., Utah."

"I propose, as a beginning of our Reunion at the World's Fair, that we organize, so as to plan sys-

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Books, explaining how to cut latest style garment. tematically. Will all who expect to be there, send their names to me, and when there is a sufficient number, committees can be appointed to secure boarding places, and make all arrangements. This will relieve Aunt of much work. All report as soon as posible. J. G. LEMBKE, Box 123, Griswold, Iowa."

This plan has my approval, and I hope all will be prompt in helping it along.

ieve Aunt of much work. All report as soon as possible.

J. G. Lembke, Box 123, Griswold, lowa."

This plan has my approval, and I hope all will be prompt in helping it along.

"With all the preparations now going on for the big event in '93, everybody, the women in particular, seem to be forgetting something, and thereby the loyalty of woman to woman and the chivalry of man to woman promises to suffer exceedingly." The speaker was a charming old school gentleman who was stopping in Chicago recently. "We have been surfeited," he continued, "with talk regarding Christopher Columbus and schemes to have his picture, an illustrated history of him, relies of his birthplace and of his wanderings, brought here and put on exhibition. This homage-paying to Christopher is proceeding on all hands with excess, and it is quite right and proper; but why don't we hear something about Mrs. Columbus? Probably but few people nowadays ever knew that there was ever such a woman as Mrs. Christopher Columbus? It occurs to me as particularly singular that in this day, especially women are being accorded so much of prominence and largely by reason of their own enterprise too, that upon this occasion the memory of Mrs. Christoper Columbus is permitted to be so entirely 'out of it' instead of 'in it.' I have been reading upon the subject lately and find that Mrs. Columbus was probably more deserving of a share of the credit of Mr. Columbus was probably more deserving of a share of the credit of Mr. Columbus was probably more deserving of a share of the credit of Mr. Columbus was probably not entirely out of it' instead of 'in it.' I have been reading upon the subject harticularly to a marked degree of the speculative and adventuresome ideas and schemes in theline of geographical discovery for which lates made many geographical discovery for which Lisbon was then the headquarters. She possessed a fine education and was widely known as a brainy, brilliant woman, who was constantly urging her husband on in the path which finally brought hi

NOTE.—The above was received from an anonymous source, otherwise a monogram would have been awarded

when C. L. C. mentioned music in the June Comport, I felt that my time had come to speak. Music is the greatest passion of my life, and an art which I consider unequalled on earth. As Bryant would say, For his gayer hours there is the lively and animated dance, while with her soft and mournful strains she glides into his darker musings, steals away their sharpness ere he is aware. Hoosier Lad." "I am a young man working with the Edison Electric Co. at Chicago, and hope to be a first class electrical engineer in a couple of years. If any of the cousins are interested in that subject, I should be glad to correspond with them. H. H. OLSEN, Edison Gen. Electric Co., Drawer EE. "The Keeley Sanitarium for the cure of drunken-

"The Keeley Sanitarium for the cure of drunkenness is situated six miles from my home. It has 70 or more patients now. I will give a little description of the treatment. The first thing is to find a boarding place, for they are not allowed to board at the hotel. Then they go to the Sanitarium, where something is injected into their arm, and then they are given all the liquor they want. Each day they are treated in this way, and after a while the liquor does not taste as good as it used to, soon it makes them siek, and in about a month they are cured.

JAMES W. CLAPP, Wixon, Mich."

While in N. Y. at the C. E. Convention. I heard the

JAMES W. CLAPP, Wixon, Mich."
While in N. Y. at the C. E. Convention, I heard the
noted temperance lecturer, John G. Woolley, give
one of his brilliant addresses. He is very severe in
his ridicule of this Keeley cure, and characterized it,
in a caustic way, as "a substitute for salvation by
hypodermic injections." There is a branch of the
Keeley Institute in Maine now, although I suppose
that some would think that we did not need it in a
prohibition (?) State!
"I think that the women have as much vight to de."

missome would think that we did not need it in a prohibition (?) State!

"I think that the women have as much right to decide who shall govern them as the men; they are, as a rule, more honorable, and would not sell their vote for a glass of whiskey or a cigar. Were we not made with minds and tongues as well as the men? I believe the men who object to women voting, must consider that their own actions at the polls are unfit for heir wives' or friends' inspection. I want to be a doctor, or at least a nurse, and have an excellent chance for the latter, as I can obtain 20 months practice, with two dollars a month, at a hospital. They are only too glad to get nurses, and if any of the cousins wish to enter that work, I will give them the address if they will send me a self-addressed postal Would like to have a few correspondents.

Miss MARTINEAU, Freeland, Mich."

"Simple Cynic gives as his opinion that if the

Miss MARTINEAU, Freeland, Mich."

"Simple Cynic gives as his opinion that if the women had the privilege of the ballot-box, they would soon exterminate the liquor traffic. I thought so once myself, but when I came to live in this place, my ideal was shattered. In this county, before a person can be given a license to retail intoxicating drinks, he must first procure ten signers out of the nearest nineteen bona fide residents, who must be heads of families, without distinction of sex. Several men have refused to sign, and have done their best to persuade others to do the same; but in the 4 years that I have lived here, I have to find the first woman who was qualified to vote on the subject, who did not always vote for the sale of liquor by signing her name on every license presented to her for signature. I am sorry it is so, but nevertheless, Simple Cynic, it is a fact. A TOTAL ABSTAINER."

This is enough to make any woman blush for her

This is enough to make any woman blush for her sex. But I was never hopeful of any great reform to be worked by woman's being given the right to vote, for there are as many bad women as there are men, and the "balance of power" would remain about the same in the end.

and the "balance of power" would remain about the same in the end.

Boston, Mass.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Shall the World's Fair be opened on Sundays? That is the question that is agitating many minds just now, and while the appropriation of Congress for the Fair is conditioned on the closing of the exhibition on Sundays, it is still thought that some arrangement may be made that will not deprive the vast throng of people of the privilege of spending a portion of Sunday in viewing the marvellous exhibits that will be placed before them in Chicago next year.

The old-time observance of Sunday still has a strong hold upon many people of the older sections of the country who retain the less liberal sentiments of other generations. But with advancing years and the rapid increase of population gathered from all parts of the world, the customs of other countries have been introduced and there has arisen a demand for opportunities of recreation on Sunday for the thousands of people who are confined closely to their labors during the week. This demand, which exists chiefly in the great centers of population, does not conflict with the rightful exaction of the church.

The visitor to Boston Common on a Sunday in summer would hardly realize that in the early Colonta

days the whipping-post was the point of attraction instead of the band stand of the present day, and that a crowd of sympathizing spectators witnessed mournfully the marks of the falling lash instead of listening to sweet strains of music or strolling along the beautifully shaded paths and reclining on the receptive turf. To-day a happy throng finds Sunday recreation on the old Common and they meet and disperse as quietly as they would enter and depart from church. It is an inspiring sight and makes one grateful for the privileges of the present day for enjoyment and rest.

Next year at Chicago there will be an immense concourse of people from all parts of the world. To close the doors of the fair apon them on Sunday, thus depriving them of the instruction and benefit which the wonderful exhibition will afford, would be a great wrong. Open the Fair to the people on Sunday and let them view the magnificent parks and lakes among which the Fair is located. Let them see the beautiful architectural designs of the various buildings, mingle with the crowds of people from all corners of the globe, and witness the products of the inventive genius and the specimens of the agricultural and manufacturing industries of the whole world. They will enjoy the pleasures of the seprience, but still more will they be impressed with the wonderful development of the human mind as shown in its marvellous products, and with the greatness and goodness of the Divine Power that has bestowed upon humanity such gifts and blessings. In the presence of these profound thoughts that must come to every intelligent mind there will be no danger lurking in the surrounding pleasures. In the language one of the most noted ministers of the century, there can be no day too sacred for beholding material evidence of the world's progress. Harmless and innocent will be the amusement abounding on every side, and the people will return to heirwork with renewed vigor and with a spirit of gratitude for the Sunday sunshine that will make cheerful the darker da

and with a spirit of gratitude for the Sunday sunshine that will make cheerful the darker days of the laborious week.

ALICE H. CORNING.

"I read your request about the 'Brethren' or as their right name 'German Baptist Brethren', and their 'love feasts', as I belong to that sect I will endeavor to describe one. Before the feast an annual visit is sent out, two deacons go together over a certain portion of the church district. Every member is thus visited to see if he or she is in the same faith as they declared at their baptism and if they are in union. Whatever difficulty is found is brought before the church at what is called a 'church meeting.' At this meeting all difficulties are settled by love and Bible teaching and a strong mixture of 'bear and forbear.' During the visit each member, if able, subscribes either horse feed, catables or money. After this meeting the church is in love and union. Invitations are sent to sister churches to the 'love feast.' The church houses are mostly large with a cellar dinderneath; this contains a very large fireplace and tables about 2 ft. wide, with benches on either side. The benches have backs 2 ft. wide put on with hinges which can very quickly be formed into a table. At 1 o'clock P.M. the people gather on the meeting ground. Two o'clock service begins, preaching by distant ministers (sometimes 25 to 40 ministers); a 'clock the meeting breaks up. During the 2 hours recess the tables are rightly placed, and long white cloths nicely spread on, while below a certain number of persons are seeing to supper (the boiling of an ox.) Promptly at 5 o'clock singing calls all straying members of the 'Brethren' (other denominations exhoused for all interested friends who come to hear and see. All sit around the table and have what is called examination. A portion of scripture is read and come examines

oture is read and
commented
upon. Each
one examines
themselves to
see if they can
eat and drink
worthily.This
lasts about
one-half hour
Anothershort
recess sing-

Anothershort recess, singing calls all to gether again. Some ministration with the control of th

kiss, this they do while singing. Next the bread communion, bread is passed to each member, all rise and one gives thanks, in great silence is this bread eaten. While singing, the wine is passed, all rise again and give thanks; another hymn sung and are dismissed. The next morning everybody gathers there to eat breakfast in the cellar. The meal consists of bread, butter, apple butter, pickles, soup, beef, tea and coffee. Preaching begins at 8 o'clock consisting of farewell address. At half past ten all disperse for their different homes, feeling greatly encouraged. The Brethren' dress plainly. It is a grand picture to see row after row of sisters all wearing a white cap. I have church tracts the for those who may wish to know more about the Brethren' by writing to MONOGRAM PRIZES APPRECIATED.

MONOGRAM PRIZES APPRECIATED.

To show that the cousins are delighted with the efforts of the Editor to improve our column and reward the correspondents I publish one of several letters already received by the publishers:
Publishers of COMFORT,

Dear Sirs:—Please accept my most sincere thanks for the beautiful, artistic monagram prize you mailed me August 23d. It is certainly a comfort to possess such a useful and unique gift; shall use it on every occasion available. COMFORT's phenomenal growth in circulation is due to the fact, its publishers are ever on the alert for some new plan or device which will prove interesting and beneficial to its subscribers. May COMFORT's numbers increase to Two Million in 1893 is the wish of

Allegheny, Pa.

In closing the column, I would remind all to be

In closing the column, I would remind all to be rief, and to avoid discussions as much as possible.

With best wishes,

AUNT MINERVA.

"Don't Tobacco Spit Your Life Away Is the startling, truthful title of a little book just received, telling all about Notobac, the wonderful, harmless, economical, guaranteed cure for the tobacco habit in every form. Tobacco users who want to quit and can't, by mentioning Comport can get the book mailed free. Address THE STERLING REMEDY CO., Box 712, Indiana Mineral Springs, Ind. They also offer exclusive territory to good agents.

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FREE TO ALLEIther VIOLIN, GUITAR, BANJO MANDOLIN player's, Guide Well worth \$1. Ad. C. A. LOHMAN, St. Louis, Mo.

A FREE TRIP TO THE WORLD'S FAIR.
The Chicago Tribune says that Jay Dwiggins &
Co., with offices at 480 Chamber of Commerce,
Chicago, have just offered to stand the round trip
railroad and sleeping or parlor car fares, meals
en route and three days hotel bill at Chicago for
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Fair, Oct. 19 to 21, 1892, or to the Fair itself in 1893.
The firm sends particulars free to all inquirers.

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entertaining and realistic summary of the attractions
that the World's Fair City possesses for the pleasureseeking visitor. 300 pages, 69 illustrations.
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Yould you like to make \$250.00 per month om now until spring? Write for particulars oday; all that is required is a little Vim Vigor, luck and Push and you can make it. Wanta live, wide-awake representative of woman, in your locality to represent the process of the process





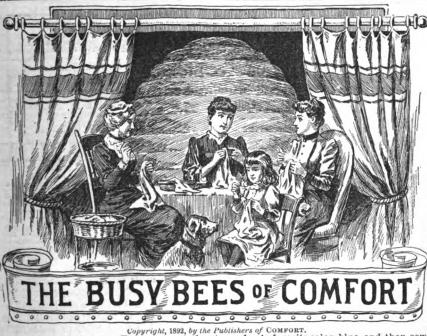
The Household Companion will give \$200 Cs o the 1st person sending a correct solution to below Rebus. To the 2d, \$100; to the 8d, \$5 o the 4th, a first-class Safety Bleyele, or if a layl legant Dlamond Ring. To each of the next 18 solution 10 delta WATCH. To the next 18, a Bee ith 1818 Dress Fattern. To the next 18, a Sec

HOUSEHOLD COMPANION. 27 Beekman St., New York.



The Views show up on the screen in a magnified manner, and young people can work the machine without experience. To entertain company at home of an exening or to display the views to an audience, they have no superior, there have always furnished a world of fascination to old and young and any Boy or Girl who has been able to buy one of the old style common Magic Lanterns have derived an endless amount of enjoyment, instruction and profit from its use. We show in our engraving a full view of a New invention, it is called the Stereo Magic Lanterns and possesses great power and variety of adjustment and views. These Lanterns were invented in Berlin and a large lot sent to this country presumably in time for Holiday trade last Dec., but steamer meeting with an accident became overdue and the whole lot was sold at a sentice at less than half cost. These Lanterns are fully represented here just as they come packed in the cabinet, having handle and everything convenient for carrying about. It stands 15 inches high and when open spreads over two feet with the outfit consists of the new style circular Transparent pictures, also the regular long narrow style packed as shown on right and left sides, there are also slip sides and changeable color revolving pictures same as shown laying near Lantern, in fact the whole outfit would only 16 yearly subscribers to Comfort at 25c. each. You can probably sell it for \$5.00 or \$10.00. We only being able to dispose of them in this manner on account of the remarkable combination of circumstances which gave us the chance of buying in the spring instead of last fall when we should have had to pay a great price. They go by Express receiver paying charges, but if you get us 20 subscribers instead of 16 we pay express. Remember we do not sell them.

PUBLISHERS OF COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Busy Bees will say, to anticipate the announced beginning, as it

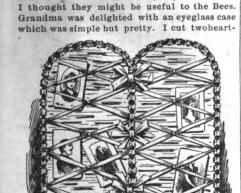
gives a whole month additional in which to make the Christmas gifts.

Just here, I think it is well to remind the Busy Bees that strict observance of all the conditions is absolutely necessary. Of these not the least important is that only one side of the paper is to be written upon. The most important, however, is the one that seems to have been most generally overlooked. That is the condition of Originality. I am sorry to say that

many of the hive from whom we were glad to hear, sent suggestions that were duplicated scores of times. Still, there is so large a number of excellent hints remaining that it will not be easy to award the prizes. The limited space renders it necessary to select only the most novel, either in application or idea, for publication. Of these, some will be necessarily over until our next issue, when the prize winners will be announced.

The contributors may notice that in several cases, one or two selections have been made from their suggestions where it not seemed desirable to include all. From a Bee in the

Nutmeg State come some clever ideas. She writes: "It is SPECTACLE CASE FOR rather jolly to have remembrances of GRANDMA OR GRANDPAPA pleasant summer times revived in the midst of winter and this summer I gathered up a store of birch bark with which I have made several



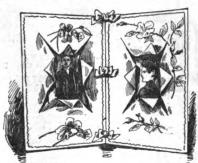
ivenirs so much admired by my friends that

Copyright, 1892, by the Publishers of COMFORT.

E are more than pleased with the great amount of interest taken in our prize offer for Christmas suggestions, which has been most satisfactorily shown by so large a number of letters on the subject that it is necessary to begin at once to publish them. However, it is just as well, we are sure the Busy Bees will

A SURPRISE PINCUSHION.

B of the boards with yellow China silk (sateen would do) drawn over the edges to meet the boark. It then crossed yellow ribbon boark. It hen crossed yellow r



AN ENVELOPE-MINIATURE CASE.

on each leaf of the cover is laid a strip of the satin about two inches broad. A binding of narrow ribbon makes all firm and by bending the covers back carefully the book is easily slipped into its cover. A painted fern frond ornaments the front page. Of course all these articles can be made of other material than birch bark, when that cannot be procured, as cardboard covered with plush, etc.



FOR MATCHES AND SCARF PINS

A cute little surprise pincushion that I made for my sister amused her greatly. I covered a little round cylinder of bark with a top, made a pincushion on the lid and put a frill of lace around it. I then fastened a comical little figure on one end of a spring, covered the rest of the spring with silk and attached it firmly to the bottom of the basket. A button and loop confine the top. When unfastened out pops the quaint surprise party.

the quaint surprise party.

By the way, here is something else that is the simplest thing possible yet very pretty. It is an "envelope miniature case." Take two square envelopes of heavy quality and of some delicate tint, such as heliotrope. Cut two diagonal incisions, crossing in the middle, and bend the resulting four sides or flaps back, as shown in the illustration. Everyone should have a bottle of liquid gilding in the house, so you had better get some and with a small brush apply it irregularly to the edges of the envelopes and of the flaps. With mucilage fasten one of the little photographs now so fashionable, in each of the openings, tie the envelopes together with dainty bows of ribbon and you have a charming little ornament at almost no

cost or trouble. If you paint, add tiny sprays of violets or forget-me-not.

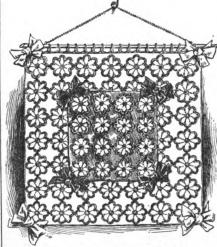
I believe I am not to exceed six suggestions, but as the spectacle and eyeglass cases are practically one, I think I may venture to describe a convenient little article suitable for a man. Take a small piece of birch bark—say about 6 by 3 inches—and bind or paint the edges suitably. Make two little cylinders of bark and fit bottoms to them. Fill the top of bark and fit bottoms to them. Fill the top one cylinder with a little cushion for scarf pins. Leave the other open, for matches. Decorate the cylinders with monogram, motto or flowers, either embroidered or painted. Sew or glue the cylinders upright on the base-board, either close together or a little distance apart. Also glue a little strip of sandpaper upon the base, to strike matches upon. If birch bark is not available, cover a thin board with plush or other suitable goods, and make the cylinders of pasteboard covered with the same, or contrasting material.

I suppose the other Bees are all swarming about my ears now because I have been buzzing so long, so good-bye,

MAE NEVENS,
New Haven, Conn.

If all the Bees buzzed to such good effect as

If all the Bees buzzed to such good effect as Mae we should be glad to hear from them at any length. A very nice letter comes to the hive from Sallie B. McCoach of Sistersville, W. Va., a sister Bee who has many artistic ideas. The watch pocket here illustrated is pretty and the

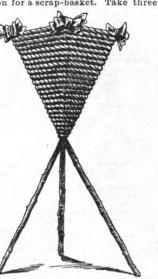


WEST VIRGINIA WATCH POCKET

making is described thus: Take two pieces of cardboard 7 inches square, cover one side of one piece with pink silk and one side of the other piece with blue satin, put several layers of wadding between satin and cardboard, crochet a square the same size as the cardboard, in any pretty open-work pattern out of pink crochet silk, fasten over the satin, cut two pieces six inches long and 5 inches wide, one of silk and one of satin, lay them together, fold in the edges and whip, or button stitch, all around. Crochet a strip same size as the satin strip, finish all around with a scallop edge, lay over the satin, run a draw thread 1-2 inch from each edge and draw in until it is 3 inches wide, fasten in center of satin covered square, and fasten the two squares with the silk covered one at the back, finish the edge with tinsel cord or with a row of scallops, put a tiny bow of very narrow blue ribbon in each corner of the little pocket, and bows of wider ribbon in each corner of the 7 inch square. Fasten a small brass banner rod at the top to hang up by. Any combination of colors may be used, do not make your crocheted square thick, as much of the beauty depends on the satin showing through. A wheel pattern is pretty and does not need the scallop on the edge. The other designs are pretty and useful but not sufficiently novel to be advisable to print.

From a Bee in Oldtown, Maine, comes a good

From a Bee in Oldtown, Maine, comes a good suggestion for a scrap-basket. Take three old



AN OLDTOWN SCRAP BASKET.

broom handles or rustic sticks and join them broom handles or rustic sticks and join them firmly, making them flare as widely as the desired size of your basket. Take small manilla rope, such as is used for clothes-lines. Tack one end at the joining and wind the rope around the outside of the poles, as close as possible until the top is reached. Fasten the end firmly with a long tack and tack the rope in as many places as are needed to secure it, at the poles. Varnish the rope and when nearly dry give two or three coats of gold or bronze. The legs may be ebonized or gilded. Tie a ribbon around the joining and attach a pretty bow to each corner. This is either for work or scraps and is very ornamental, as the illustration shows.

From Eyelyn G. Pleasanton, Jowa, comes a

ornamental, as the illustration shows.

From Evelyn G., Pleasanton, Iowa, comes a pleasant letter, and from her suggestions we cull one that is certainly novel. It relates to a Triplet Vase made of cow horns and is as follows: Get three horns from a butcher or slaughter-house. Clean and boil them; polish with sand paper and sweet oil. If you can paint, a spray of flowers on each horn is pretty. Punch a hole in each, about 3-4 of an inch from the top and fasten together with an invisible fastening of wire over which arrange a bow of ribbon. This forms a very pretty set of vases for flowers in water or earth, or dried grasses. The edges can be "saw-toothed" if preferred, with little trouble.

Another "Oldtown" Bee sends a group of sag-

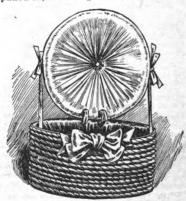
Another "Oldtown" Bee sends a group of suggestions from which we select the jewel casket for description and illustration. Get 3-4 of a pound of 1-4 inch manilla rope, being careful to have it white and clear as possible. Take scissors and trim off carefully all the fibres which

protrude from the strands, leaving it perfectly smooth. Then measure off 12 pieces each 28 inches long. Take four lengths, lay flatly to-



THE TRIPLET VASE FROM IOWA

gether and catch with a strong thread. Proceed the same with remaining lengths; then braid, using the four lengths as one strand. Lap the ends and sew firmly and as flatly together as possible. This makes the brim of the basket. The bottom is made by sewing one piece of the rope around in one flat coil until it fits into the top part, sew with as blind stitches as possible. Now measure off three lengths of 18 inches each and braid, leaving three inches unbraided on each end to ravel for tassel. This makes the bail, which is sewed on to cover the joining of the brim. To cover the fastening of this, put on each side a nobby bow of ribbon I inch wide. Line with China silk, or anything preferred. It takes only a small piece and may be shirred or puffed in, according to taste.



A NOVEL JEWEL CASKET.

Next month we will print the remaining contributions that seem most desirable and the fortunate winners of prizes will be named.

Busy Bee, (Care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.)

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Half the price of tin or shingles? Guaranteed
water-tight on flat or steep surface, and you can
put it on. Sample free if mention this paper.
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Indiana Paint & Roofing Co., New York.

The Pot Insulted the Kettle Because

the Cook had not used

Good Cooking Demands Cleanliness SAPOLIO SHOULD BE USED IN EVERY KITCHEN.



A Child's Love for a Doll.

HAS OFTEN BEEN COMMENTED ON.—READ ABOUT THE NEW STYLE DOLLS.



Modern invention always making startling provements, and the lithing just brought out is the young people who away from the large cit We have just secured sale ou in this cut look; they inches tall, elegant col i getting this

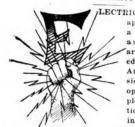
PEOPLE BUY THEM BY THE HUNDREDS. In ordering the second lot here is what one Lady says:

15 Concert St., Keokuk, Iowa.

MORSE & Co. MORSE & CO.,
Sirs:-Dolls received. Enclosed find money order,
for which send me fifty (50) more of your indestructible dolls, express paid. Please send soon as you can,
as I already have orders for a number of them,
Mothers and children seem equally delighted with
the dolls. Resp'y, Mrs. W. H. FOUTS.

Simple Science for Busy Breadwinners.

ELECTRICITY I



LECTRICITY, in its various applications, furnishes a livelihood for a vast and rapidly growing army of intelligent and educated breadwinners. And of all the professions it to-day throws open the widest unexplored field to the ambitious young man seeking a promising oppor-

tunity. All of the largest colleges have established electrical engineering departments and these branches are crowded with

Just what electricity is nobody knows. It varies from the tiny harmless spark one brushes from the soft fur of the family cat to the frightful force of the thunderbolt. It is a good servant but a dangerous master and too much care cannot be exercised in the powerful currents. The many accidents reported are the result of an intense current passing through the human body, either to another wire, or off into the ground. The shock to the vital powers is so great as in many cases to kill the individual, and executing criminals by this method has in the State of New York taken the place of hanging, as being instantaneous and therefore more humane.

New discoveries in electricity are constantly being made and the most advanced students and inventors dare not prophesy future developments, or what can or cannot be accomplished by means of this wonderful force. At the present time its use is divided into four general branches, the telegraph, the telephone, electric lighting and the production of power for driving machinery. To this list may perhaps be added another branch, very small compared to the others, viz: the production of heat. This mysterious force makes communication instant between places far distant, drives sewing machines, printing presses and many other kinds of machinery, lights and pro-pels street cars, railway trains, lights houses, roads and steamboats, and the immediate future will doubt less witness its introduction into many other fields of usefulness.

Electricity itself is always the same, no matter how or by what means it is produced. The currents used in telegraphing and telephoning are not very strong and are generated by the action of various metals and chemicals placed in glass jars called "batteries." For other purposes requiring powerful and sustained currents, as in driving machinery or furnishing electric light, electricity is manufactured in power-houses by means of a "dynamo" driven by a stationary steam engine. The current is conveyed from these houses by wire to wherever it is wanted, and meters have been made by which anyone using electricity can be charged with the amount consumed. The exact construction and operation of batteries and dynamos is left for a future article.

No less renowned a genius than Thomas A. Edison a few years ago said that he thought it would be impossible to build a dynamo that would furnish a strong enough electrical current to light more than one thousand lamps, and at that time it seemed very improbable. But the coming World's Fair will be equipped with several dynamos, each of the capacity of ten thousand incandescent lamps. Nearly ninety thousand lights of this description will be used about the buildings and grounds. A recent report of building statistics also says: "Nine-tenths of the new houses being erected in the city of Indianapolis are being wired throughout for electric lighting."

All over the country these lights have become so common that their appearance has almost ceased to be a novelty to anybody, yet it is safe to say there isn't one person in a hundred who has any idea of how it is done. As the production of light is one of the most important uses to which electricity has been put, the following short explanation will interest busy workers. It is neither technical or confusing, but will present in a popular way, the main of incandescent lighting, the system usually employed in illuminating homes.

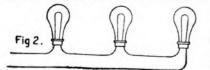
First, as to the incandescent lamp itself. Its gen-



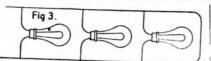
eral appearance is given in figure 1. Light is produced by a charred, horse-shoe haped loop of bamboo or ther vegetable fibre, hardly hicker than a hair. Elecricity traverses some subtances more freely than others. This charred loop presents such resistance to the passage of the current that it is kept at a white heat. These loops would burn out instantly if exposed to common air, but as combustion is not

possible in a vacuum, they are placed in sealed pear-shaped glass bulbs from which the air has been exhausted. The intense heat causes these loops to slowly waste away and when they finally break the lamp is useless and is thrown away. The manufacturers guarantee them for five hundred hours burning, but they generally last much longer. The usual sizes are ten and sixteen candle-power. Two little wires project from the base of each glass bulb, connected inside with the ends of the charred horse shoe of "carbon filament." In order to produce light it is only necessary to attach these wires to the two wires from your electrical generator (battery or dynamo) and if the electrical current is of sufficient strength, the tiny white-hot loop glows with intense brilliancy

But you want several lights, perhaps in different rooms, or along the street. Supposing you connect them as shown in Figure 2. Now come some of the freaks of electricity. They will burn nicely until a lamp breaks or you should wish to turn one out, and

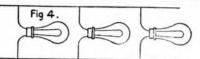


then every lamp in the circuit would go out. Why is this? In the first place, electricity will not start on



a circuit at all unless the circuit is complete and un-As the lamps are arranged, the current has broken. to go through every lamp to reach those beyond and complete the circuit. To stop its passage through a lamp would be just like cutting the wire itself. To cut the wire, however, would be a dangerous experi-ment, for the reason that the current would instantly form a new circuit into the great reservoir of electric-ity—the earth—through the body of the person who had interrupted it. Neither can we arrange the lamps as shown in Figure 3. The current would avoid the great resistance through the lamps, and would travel around on the outside wire without passing through a single one, for electricity, like human nature, always goes the easiest way round and does as little work as possible.

The solution of the problem is Figure 4. The electricity must pass from one wire to the other, and to do so divides itself equally between the lamps. Should one of these break, or be turned off, the current divides itself among the remainder, which thus. instead of going out, become if anything, brighter.
The current of electricity must be proportionate in strength to the number of lamps. If too weak, the lamps give a yellowish light instead of white. All



connections are made with copper wire, used because of its excellent conducting powers. This wire is covered with cotton, neatly braided on by machinery, and this wrapping coated with some waterproof and non-conducting compound, thus protecting the wire from contact with anything through which the electricity might escape. No matter whether there are two or two thousand lights in a circuit, they must be arranged on the principle shown in Figure 4

Our next article will deal with electricity as motive power.

Young Folks' Department.

Y DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS:

Auntle seems to think that I had better keep this column for the present, as she has so much to do; but I hope that you will all write just the same, and perhaps you will be glad to have an uncle as well as an aunt! Let month now, and you are all hard at work in your studies, with the harness fairly buckled on again after the playtime of vacation. In some parts of the country, you are spending the half-holidays in going nutting, although I suppose Jack Frost has not got along quite yet; you always like to have his help in cracking open the prickly burrs. October is such a beautiful month, with all the bright leaves on the trees, and the farmers gathering in the autumn fruits; but it makes us think of the cold winter which is coming, and that is not pleasant, at least to us old folks.

But I must not talk too long, for Auntic has given me such a lot of letters, and those will be more interesting than anything that I can say to the young folks.

"The cousins usually tell about their pets, so I will

"The cousins usually tell about their pets, so I will tell about ours. The most remarkable ones are fish in a large pond near the house. In warm weather they will come near to the bank and eat bread from our hands, and when we children put our bare feet in the water, they will come and nibble our toes. My little sister has a kitten that will play hide-and-seck. I live in the country, and have a happy home. I appreciate my good health more than ever when I read the letters of the Shut-Ins, and extend to them my sympathy. I should have been in that group of children when Auntie touched their noses with lemon juice.

Mary M. Brock, Eagleville, Mo."

I do not believe that you go a-fishing very much in

dren when Auntie touched their noses with lemon Juice. Mary M. Brock, Eagleville, Mo."
I do not believe that you go a-fishing very much in that pond, or the fish would not be so tame.
"I want to tell you about my home. It is situated just 16 miles north of the Ohio river, in the forks of the Big and Little Indian creeks. It is the old capital of Indiana, and is a very beautiful town. The old State House is still standing, and is in good order. The Governor's mansion is in ruins, but the old elm tree, under whose branches Congress used to meet in summer, is still very beautiful. I am a boy 16 years old, and have been going to the High School for several years. The woods are full of a dozen different kinds of flowers, and we have fine times gathering them. I live on an elevated piece of ground, about 200 yards out of the town limits, which are extending steadily toward our land. The highest hill in the country around is about 900 ft. high. We have a sulphur spring in the State. Corydon is a kind of summer resort for people from Louisville and other cities near. I would like to correspond with some of the cousins.

IRA BENTON, BOX 245, Corydon, Ind."

Here is another little fellow from Texas. I believe that they raise some smart boys among the cotton

Here is another little fellow from Texas. I believe that they raise some smart boys among the cotton down there.

down there.

"I am a little boy 6 years old, and live on a farm in the prairie country of Texas. I picked 1,800 lbs. of cotton last year. Mama was sick last summer, and papa and I kept house. I wipe dishes for mama, and help her sweep too. I have never been to school, but am learning at home, and can read a little. I have 2 brothers, one 5 years old named John, and Baby Joe. I am taking care of little Joe while mama writes this for me. Papa bought John and me a saddle, and we have a nice time riding.

HULL MCCLELLAN, Coryelle, Texas."

"I am quite interested in the collecting of coins,

HURL MCCLELIAN, Coryelle, Texas."

"I am quite interested in the collecting of coins, stamps, etc. I agree with W. F. Case about forming a collectors club for the purpose of exchange, and of getting acquainted with each other. Collecting is not only pleasurable, but also profitable and instructive. Many people make a good deal of money by collecting old coins and selling them to dealers. I as strongly oppose any collecting that is foolish or wicked, as I approve of that which is beneficial. Would like to correspond with those interested in collecting. EDWARD SHEPARD, Wellman, Iowa."

"I am a little Danish girl, 8 years old. I go to chool every day except on washing day, when I have o help my dear mama. We have a fine teacher. I vant to surprise my mama and papa with this letter. CHRISTIANE NIPPELSON, Stony Ford, Cal."

Christiane Nippelson, Stony Ford, Cal."

"As this is my birthday, I will write to you. I am a little girl 13 years old. My parents being poor, my advantages for an education are small. I have the opportunity of attending the public school three months only in the year, that being all the appropriations made by the State. The public school system of our State is almost a failure. I live in the extreme north corner of Jackson Co., Ala., in the fertile Valley of Tennesse, so-called. We are surrounded by beautiful mountain scenery. The land along the river is very productive, the staples being corn and cotton. Our county is a prohibition county; no whiskey is allowed to be sold here.

MARY S. STOGSDILL, Facklers, Ala."

Labould think that the school system of that State

MARY S. STOGSDILL, Facklers, Ala."

I should think that the school system of that State was not only almost, but entirely a failure. What would you think, young folks of New England, to have school only three months in the year? I think that our young friend from Ala. has done wonderfully well, with the advantages she has had, to write as good a letter as this.

"We live in the country; Petersburg is our nearest city, and that is 8 miles. There was a candy feast at our church at Xmas, and my little nephew recited a piece we found in Comfort called 'An Appropriate Present,' about Polly and Santa Claus. He spoke it beautifully, the is only 5 years old), and he held up an old stocking and the darning cotton ran right through on the floor. There was the greatest laugh that you ever heard. For pets we have about 250 chickens, and 550 Pekin ducks; they keep us very busy, as they have to be kept so clean, or sickness will come among them. We think a great deal of Comfort, it brings comfort every time it comes to our home.

Rosa B. Rodgers, Derby, Va."

Now I shall expect a great many letters from the

Now I shall expect agreat many letters from the young folks. You may direct to Auntie or to me, in care of Comfort. With best wishes, your UNCLE JOSEPHUS.

HOW I MADE MY START.

HOW I MADE MY START.

The question with every young person is, how to start in business. During my last term of school, I learned of a friend making money plating jewelry and tableware; bought a \$5 plater of H. F. Delno & Co. of Columbus, Ohio. In one week I did \$13 worth. Last week I was sick and only made \$11. The price received for plating is nearly all profit and the work nice. Every person has gold, silver or nickel plating to do. I hope to start a little store soon. Why can't any person make a start in this way?

James Anderson.

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e time. Address, PUBLISHERS OF COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

THE SKIRT DANCE.

MONG the latest crazes, not only in theatrical but in social circles, is the skirt dance. It was introduced into this country by the Gaiety Theatre girls from London and since has been the rage everywhere. There is really no novelty in this dance, it being a mere elaboration of the old ballet dancing which for generations has been so popular. The dancer is differently costumed but the dance itself is the same in principle. The simple and artistic skirts reaching to the floor with their sweeping fullness, give the fair dancer perfect freedom of movement.

> step make a picture of great beauty

and refinement. We do not advise readers of COMFORT to adopt this vocation but they should know what it is, and learn also that that glitters is not gold and that the smile of the skirt-dancer is often assumed. Popular favor is only won by hard work and a life of constant sacrifice, cruel rebuffs and bitter tears choked back. In return, as your beauty es, some actress-younger and fresher-takes your place, and from that on, life is a struggle. You are hoarse, but must speak in a sweet voice, you are ill, but your feet must be nimble. It is hard to convince the enthusiastic girl of this, but it hap-

C

ens every day.

Private theatricals and home entertainments are entirely a different matter, and young people with talent oft-times prove very acceptable as amateur performers.

A few hints for the Skirt Dance may not be amiss at this point. In the dance the feet should be kept in the mir as much as possible, indeed, one might say that the "high kick" with its accompanying swirl of petticoats is its principle feature. Three underskirts are worn, each with a full flounce on the upper and ander sides. The first one is securely fastened below the knee. This prevents the drapery from falling out of place. Chima silk and tulle are the favorite fabrics, but soft white lace and India mull are often employed, being less expensive. The skirt of the dress is of some light material-accordeon plaited—and measures from ten to fourteen yards around the bottom. The peasant bodice is usually of et and fastens with lacing cords. Some very pretty skirts for church fairs and school entertainents have been made of cheesecloth in the delicate tints. These plait nicely and are comparatively in-

The Serpentine Dance lately introduced in this country, demands a voluminous skirt, eighty yards of material being required for its construction. It is thirty yards around, ungored, and touches the floor. Confined to the short baby-waist by coarse gathers, the material falls in soft folds to the feet. Tights of some faint color are worn, the fullness of the skirt making under-drapery unnecessary. The dance is founded on that of the Nautch girls who appeared at the Paris Exposition, and consists of the dancer whirling the skirt about as she executes her steps. At one time it twists like a gauzy serpent, again it rises like the wings of a butterfly, and in the last figure completely envelopes the dancer. The more siry the material the more effective the dance, and a bright girl with a skirt, and full-length mirror, can in a short time unravel this-the latest thing in dancing. Its peculiarity, and charm, lies in the deft handling of the skirt and the graceful undulations of

Our illustrations are taken from life and represent Miss Loie Fuller and Miss Allen, two of the most brilliant skirt-dancers in the country.

FACTS FOR THE FAIR SEX.



LDEST of all ceremonies is that of marriage, and among all nations, no matter how highly civilized. there lingers some hereto. None however, is more odd than the Rus-

sian custom of bride and bridegroom running a race down the aisle of the church, because of the belief that the one who first steps on the carpet in front of the altar will rule the house!

As the higher education of women goes on, it is interesting to note how the status of the "old maid" has changed. At the present day no one thinks of assuming that the unmarried woman of middle age has been scorned by the stronger sex, but rather takes for granted that her fastidious tastes failed to find any man sufficiently attractive to marry!

Some of the brightest and best women of our day have chosen a life of single blessedness, rather than marry simply because they had "the chance."

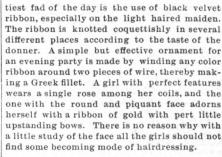
One of the most startling sights of the great Columbian Exhibition in Chicago will be the regiment of Amazons or women soldiers, which accompany the exhibit from Dahomey,

to Chicago and will live just as in their native land. The women soldiers of Dahomey have been famous in history from time immemorial and are the ruling power in the State. Only the largest and strongest women are allowed to serve in this capacity and they are treated with almost superstitious respect by the people.

Speaking of marrying, it seems that feasting has always been considered a necessary adjunct of joyful occasions. The wedding feast is as old as love itself. Even our nineteenth century civilization, with its disdain of effete symbolisms and superstitions, still clings to the wedding breakfast or supper. The feast was originally a religious feature, being a sacrifice to the household gods, but gradually lost that significance and became merely a part of the merrymaking. The "bride's cake," which was once her special offering to the deity presiding while the grace and naturalness of over marriage, retains a somewhat distinctive

character as only she is allowed to cut it. The English bride's cake is frequently five feet high, and decorated with shields and flags and family crests. The American is more modest. At a recent fashionable wedding however, the bride's cake was about two feet in diameter and represented a tower on whose summit rested a dove, emblematic of peace. Delicate ferns and ivy wreaths twined about the tower and the effect was exquisitely dainty.

Much is said in the



The Great Diamonds of the World.

HERE are a few diamonds in the world of such great value that but few persons care to own them, for a great diamond like a great fortune entails an endless amount of harassment and is a constant source of anxiety. Perhaps the larg-est and most valuable is the famous Koh-i-noor Diamond now belonging to the Queen of England. Of all the great diamonds of the world it has the most romantic history. It was originally found in the mines of Golconda, how long ago no one can tell. The Hindoos who are fond of big figures claim that it was first worn by Kama, King of Auga nearly three thousand years ago, but the first authentic history we have of it is during the reign of a celebrated king known as Shah Jehan, the Great Mogul. He was a very powerful king and chief among all the tribes of India. It is not an uncommon thing now-a-days to speak of a conceited man in derision as a Great Mogul, yet few people know from whence the term originated.

Shah Jehan employed a Venetian diamond cutter to polish the gem, but the man did his work very poorly, and the Mogul in a rage fined the jeweller ten thousand ducats instead of paying what he agreed to. But for this blundering butchery the Koh-i-noor

would to-day be the largest, as it is the most brilliant, diamond the world has ever seen. In its native country the Koh-i-noor was regarded with interest and admiration, and all sorts of wonderful and mystical powers were ascribed This naturally excited the cupidity of the neighboring chiefs. and frequent wars were a result.

Early in the present century the Khan of Cabul was the possessor of it, from whom the famous chief Lahore obtained it in an audacious manner. Having heard that the Khan of Cabul possessed a diamond which had belonged to the Great Mogul, and which was the brightest and purest gem ever seen he invited the unfortunate owner of the gem to his court, and there having him in his power demanded the diamond. The guest however had provided himself with an imitation which he delivered up to his covetous host after a slight show of re-sistance. The delight of Lahore was extreme but of short duration



newspapers about the indolent habits of fashionable American women, but they are activity itself in comparison with the aristocrats of Russia. As no one of the upper class of that country thinks of retiring before three o'clock in the morning, it is quite natural that most of the day should be passed in slumber and it is said that there are many fashionable women of rank in St. Petersburg, who have not been seen except by gaslight for years.

A favorite amusement for these Russian aristocrats is the "Troika" party. The troika is a large sleigh with three horses harnessed abreast. Women and men wrap themselves in furs from head to foot and, with the thermometer at 30 degrees below zero, are driven rapidly through streets still with the silence of midnight, far into the suburbs until some lonely tavern is reached where supper may be found, Near St. Petersburg these taverns frequently quaint and curious have bands of gypsies in the vicinity, who will custom in relation come and dance and sing their strange, sweet songs for the visitors who listen enchanted until the sun's distant rays warn them that the night has gone!

> The new style of hairdressing is copied from the classic simplicity of the Greeks and is formed by waving the hair on each side of the parting. This can be done with the curling tongs or rolled up over night, unless the woman is fortunate enough to have it curled by nature. A few short hairs are allowed to fall over the forehead. Then coll the hair loosely in a knot low on the head and allow a few strands of hair to curl in the neck.

Another pretty way is to coil the hair from the top of the head to the neck. This is easiest done by curling the short hairs on top and then drawing the rest of the hair together and tying it loosely with a ribbon and coiling the twisted hair keeping the effect narrow. Then curl the lower strands in the neck and the small bang and the effect is charming. Not for many years have so many decorations been used in the hair-flowers, ribbons, all manner of bands for the front and back hair, gold pins, a little State in Western Africa on the coast of diamonds, pearls and amber ornaments. But for the girl under twenty-five, by far the pret-

.. enter to whom he gave it pronounced it to be merely crystal and the mortification of the despot was great. He at once ordered the palace of the Khan to be ransacked from top to bottom, but all search was in vain. At last a slave betrayed the secret, and the diamond was found beneath a heap of

An Englishman who visited the great Sihk poten-

asnes.

An Englishman who visited the great Sihk potentate some years afterwards was deeply impressed with the jewels worn by Lahore, chief among which was the Koh-i-noor or "Mountain of Light" as it means in English, and shortly afterwards when the British conquered Punjaub this precious jewel was found among the spoil and presented by the East India Company to the Queen of England.

The Duke of Wellington who won the Battle of Waterloo was asked to give the first touch to the polishing now deemed necessary, and to-day the "Mountain of Light" is more beautiful and more dazzling than ever before in its history. Its present value is supposed to be about \$275,000.00, though of course if a nation or a person desired to own it, and it was for sale, it would be worth as much as the buyer chose to give for it, which might be in the millions.

it was for sale, it would be worked as the buyer chose to give for it, which might be in the millions.

Even at the price we have named the ordinary rate of interest allowed by savings banks would represent an annual income of more than \$1,000.00, quite a tidy sum to live on. There are several other diamonds in the world the possession of which is a princely fortune in itself. The "Star of the South" is worth about \$225,000.00. The "Regent" about \$200,000. The great Russian diamond "The Orloff" about \$250,000, the Austrian diamond about \$200,000. There was one found in the Kimberly mines in South Africa for which \$300,000 was refused, and there is one owned by a king in Borneo that is supposed to be worth double what any of the others are valued at.

If you should happen to have a few diamonds around the house and lose one or two, let it not worry you, but remember that in all probability you could replace it, and thank your lucky stars that it isn't one of the great diamonds that would set the whole world talking and make the reporters hunt your footsteps almost to the grave.



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Corner Baker and Vine Streets, CINCINNATI OHIO

DRESSMAKING.

FASHIONS FOR AUTUMN AND EARLY WINTER WITH COMMON-SENSE HINTS ON HEALTH.

(Written for Comfort.)

WITH COMMON-SENSE HINTS ON HEALTH.

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Now that October has come and the skies are gray and oak leaves yellow, we naturally begin to think of laying our summer gowns aside and before we can do that we must have heavier ones prepared. It is well to keep in mind, when the fashions are as pronounced as this season—thateverything is not becoming to everybody. A style that is perfection on a tall woman may make a petite person look simply ridiculous and vice versa. The Russian blouse is one of these non-adaptable fashions of which "little women" should beware, the long skirt of the blouse making a horizontal line that lessens the apparent height of the figure, while nothing is more graceful on a tall, slender figure. A charming gown of this design is of blue serge with flat trimmings. Make the skirt just short enough to clear the ground—fortunate—ly costumes designed especially for the street are no longer made with trains—line a bias fold of the material about three inches wide when completed with lining muslin, baste it carefully on the skirt, close to the lower edge, and fasten it on by fancy stitches on each edge, made with red and yellow rope silk. The long stitches may be made with the red and the short alternating stitches with the yellow silk. This touch of color has a very pretty effect and does not look at all "loud." The blouse fits quite closely across the shoulders and is confined at the waist by a pointed girdle, with edges decorated by the stitching in colors. The collar and deep cuffs have the same decoration and a good effect is produced by the application of a band similar to that on the skirt, in the form of a zouave jacket, as shown in the illustration. The high close collar is similarly decorated. Only five and three-quarters yards are required if the goods are forty-four inches wide and inexpensive fabrics make up as prettily as the high-priced.

A beautiful costume recently made for a Boston girl's trousseau is of wood-brown broad-cluth cumbined with golden-brown Ottomen



design for the coat and waistcoat.

In planning one's wardrobe for the winter there are many things beside the gowns to be considered. Shoes, hats, underwear, all have their place and demand attention. The thin, low shoes that add so greatly to our comfort must be discarded at the first approach of cold weather if we would remain free from colds. This is emphatically the era of common sense and the best dressed women are seldom seen in the street with the high heels and pointed toes so generally worn a few years ago. The soles of the shoes should be much heavier than in summer and the stockings should no longer be of thin lisle or silk but of heavy French cotton or fine merino wool.

The very small hat has rather gone out of

or fine merino wool.

The very small hat has rather gone out of favor. It is becoming to very few faces and medium size or large hats will be much worn the coming season. Low crowns will also be popular although a few handsome Paris hats designed for the autumn have high, pointed crowns. Fur felts are beautumn have high, pointed crowns. Fur felts are being revived and ostrich plumes as well as wings will be worn. Velvet, also, will be greatly worn and felt is to be fashionable so that all tastes can be suited. Walking hats should be simply trimmed, a fold of velvet and a pigeon wing being deemed sufficient garniture by the best milliners. Everyone of artistic tastes will be glad to learn that hats are to match the costumes, the colors in the gown being expected to appear in the hat or bonnet. Turbans and the so-called walking hats are to be especially in favor, although there are many fantastic shapes among the recent importations.

The number of gowns in

tions.
The number of gowns in

the number of gowns in the wardrobe are very little consequence if the charm of a healthful and clear complexion be absent. Every sensible woman desires to look as attractive as possible. That is not only he ight,

but her duty. While all cannot have skin like satin or alabaster, it is possible for everyone to have a complexion free from muddiness and eruptions. Bathing is one of the most important agents in effecting this, and just such bathing as is accessible to every woman who reads Comfort, whether in the heart of Maine or the borders of New Mexico. A bath tub in which one may take a plunge into cold or hot water, is a luxury but not a necessity. An ordinary basin half-filed with water from which the chill has been removed, and a sponge with plenty of good soap, is all that is needed. Take a sponge bath every night or morning or even three or four times a week, from head to foot and, my word for it, in three months you will be startled by the improvement in your appearance. Cold baths are usually a mistake. They draw too heavily upon the vitality and many a case of nervous prostration has been directly traceable to the habitual use of the cold bath. After a bath of any kind a brisk rubbing with a coarse towel is an absolute necessity. The face, however, should be rubbed more gently as the skin is so delicate. Eruptions may almost always be banished by the use of a simple remedy made of two ounces of Rochelle salts, one ounce of cream of tartar and a quart of water. Pour the water (hot) on the dry ingredients, strain when cold and bottle. Take a wineglassful every morning before breakfast.

The health is greatly benefited by careful airing of the underclothing, every article of which should be shaken and hung separately at night. If possible to put them in the direct draught from an open window, so much the better.

THE MYSTIC CASTLE.

Y DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:
With two new contests, in which I hope every reader of COMFORT will participate, also the usual interesting batch of "Mysteries," I greet you this month, with the assurance of a pleasant hour chatting over mystic affairs with my COMFORT friends, and becoming acquainted with many new recruits to our ranks.

Springfield, Ark.,

Nos. 349-50. Stars.
(To Ray with regards.)
(1) 1. A letter. 2. A word of denial. 3. To confine.
4. Certain trees. 5. Places for baking. 6. A director.
7. A Jewish sect. 8. A musical note. 9. A letter.
(2) 1. A letter. 2. A verb. 3. Candid. 4. To withdraw. 5. A riddle. 6. Grown persons. 7. A genus of birds. 8. A musical note. 9. A letter.
Decorah, Iowa,
No. 351. Newark Icosahedron.
1. Custom. 2. A long loose overcoat, (Supp.) 3. Wretched, 4. Wolfsh. 5. A species of wild geese.
6. Any star. 7. Bondage. 8. A wrought iron bar, to hold parts together. 9. A clyster. 10. To attire. 11. An even or level place. 12. Formed with channels.
13. A knot.
San Francisco, Cal.

3. A knot.
San Francisco, Cal.,
No. 352. Charade.
Fettered with those mighty bands,
Silent as the tomb he stands,
Watching for mother, sister, friends,
In vain.

In vain He fitly of freedom could boast, Had he always adhered to his post; But now he's a wreck and most

But now he's a wreck and most
Insane.
Though THREE will affect his vision,
He to-day, FOUR TWO ONE 'mid derision
From those having a COMPLETE mission,
In pain.
Waterford, N. Y.

Waterford, N. Y., No. 353. Anagram. NIMBUS. I am Dr. Olemay.

Speers, Pa.,
No. 354. Anagram.
(To Aspiro.)
Now perhaps your elfish maiden
Was some mortal in disguise
One with lovely golden tresses,
Blue of heaven are her eyes.

Blue of heaven are her eyes.
Side by side you once were sitting,
Lip to lip and nose to nose;
Fearing not the old man's brogan,
Dog nor gun. We will suppose
Cupid's dart has struck. You linger
'Til a step's heard on the stair—
Old Father Time now points his finger
To "wee sma' hours" young man bewa

To "wee sma' hours" young man beware!
Sudden flitting—elf and lover—
Lover home and elf to bed;
And the sofa never moving,
Is LEFT by COMPLETE instead.
Grafton, Ills... Lo
No. 355. Anagram.
"Tec thy cat smiles." Ah yes, behold her!
Miss Pussy, when you've grown some older,
You'll find out what I say is true,
There are no rats in here for you.
Tis true there's spread a goodly feast. 'Tis true there's spread a goodly feast, The guests come from the west, the east; From all directions it is true, But Puss the feast is not for you. Although I've seen upon the table Things, which to eat I'd not be able. Oldcastle himself by Doc served up, Garnished with India e.m and such,

In my belief, I here will state, Aunt Minerva's owls have shared a like fate, Dogs, bears and Lions sent for miles To be used for the feast in "TEC THY CAT SMILES."

To be used for the feast in "TEC THY CAT SMILES."
Yet much we love to take our place
Around the board, where with kindly grace
Oldcastle presides to dispense good cheer
To solvers, throughout the coming year.
Frankville, Iowa,
No. 356. Diamond.

1. A letter from Remardo. 2. To impair the powers
of vision. 3. A stratagem intended to gain undue advantage. 4. Sown in rows. 5. Pertaining to logic.
6. Punished by a pecuniary fine. 7. To prevent by
prohibition. 8. Executed. 9. A letter from "Mystic
Castle."

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Ithaca, N. Y.,

No. 357. Hour Glass.

(To Oldcastle.)

1. Happening at the same instant. 2. Figures of speech in which the sound of words are imitative of the sound of the things which the words represent. 3. A thin-bladed dagger. 4. A militiaman who was to be ready to march at a moment's notice. 5. Groups of metameric hydrocarbons of the methans series. 6. Promontories. 7. A magpie. 8. A letter. 9. A village of Cuba. 10. A village of France. 11. A motion of the body expressive of sentiment or passion. 12. A figure having eleven angles or eleven sides 13. Titanium dioxide occuring in acute octahedral crystals. 14. People who make excessively nice or needless distinctions in reasoning. 15. Dilitations of the capillary vessels.

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capillary vessels.
Diagonals:—Left to right, down—Commoness. Left
to right, up—The quality of being dissipated, (Rare.)
Centrals, up—The process of decomposing by the
direct action of electricity.
Brooklyn, N. Y.,
PRIZE HOLIDAY COMPETITION.
For the best verse puzzle based upon a subject relative to the Holidays "Old Si's Humorous Sketches"
will be given. For the second best, "The Piccadilly
Puzzle" by F. W. Hume.
Contest closes Nov. 1, 1892. Result in December
"Mystic Castle."
PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.
1. For the best list of solutions to this month's
"Mysteries," one year's subscription to COMPORT.
2. For the next best, a package of fine stationery.
3. The Bad Boy at Home, by W. T. Gray.
SPECIALS.—"From Freedom to Bondage" and "The
Lost Arts" wawrded by lot among the rest of the solvers.
Contest closes Dec. 1. Solutions, solvers and prize-

and at best do not make any profit. We simply desire to show our subscribers that we intend to give them the advantage of bargains when ne get a chance and know they will appreciate it and work and talk all the more for COMPORT as time goes along.

WONDERFUL WALKING DOLLS.



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SPECIAL PREMIUM OFFERS

Will be found this month, The Telescope, Magic Langers and Album announcements, were never equalled and only for the fact that we got these goods at a great sacrifice can we make such liberal offers. A MARVELOUS MECHANICAL CURIOSITY

From Agony to Bliss.



From Misery to Happiness.

eciving the same benefits from its a closely deciving the same benefits from its another lot of this Wonderful Food and Plasters.

Mrs. Wm. BANTZ
Howe, Neb.

DOCTORS FAILED.

nearly nine years and receiving little bene Oxien. It has done wonders for me. One a boxes brought me good health and others he ceiving the same benefits from it. I enclose another lot of this Wonderful Food and Pla

Not a day passes but what scores of letters like the foregoing reach us from grateful men and women whose lives have been saved by our Wonderful Food for the Nerves, Oxien.

Every hour brinze fresh proof that Oxien is the Food which Scientists have searched for; the Medicine which doctors have longed for and the Relief which hopeless sufferers have prayed for. It gives—

NEW LIFE, NEW POWER. NEW STRENGTH,

NEW HOPE, NEW VIGOR, NEW HAPPINESS.

It is a Godsend for the weak and weary; and a Godsend to thousands of Home Workers who are making fortung introducing it to their friends and neighbors. Write at once for free samples and terms to agents and secure your territor. THE GIANT OXIE COMPANY, Augusta, Maine

Happenings Here, There no Yonder.

In Hamburg there have been 12,000 cases of cholera.

American factories produce 35,000 watches every

England has so far escaped an invasion of the plague.

A gun recently tested in New Haven, Conn., fired over 900 shots a minute.

In New York City there are, on the average, 18 1-2 inhabitants to each dwelling.

inhabitants to each dwelling.

A movement is on foot in England to exclude destitute aliens from that country.

A recent estimate places the cost of all the railways in the world at 32,116,000,000 dollars.

According to statistical report, 20,000 husbands in Chicago are supported by their wives.

A smokeless powder of American manufacture is to be used by the American Government.

It has been discovered that coal tar applied to masonry makes it impervious to water.

A rifle in the United States army is unfit for use after 4,000 rounds have been fired from it.

It is said that a cord of good sound wood will produce a ton of dry-weight ground wood pulp.

During the past year 299 residents of Massachusetts have changed their names by process of law. In honor of the World's Fair the new shade of red is called by the French color makers, "Chicago."

Interesting experiments have been made in the use of compressed air as a means of street car propulsion. Lord Tennyson's first book was published in 1820. His latest was published last year, overseventy years later.

The song "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay" as sung by Lottie collins brings her an income, it is said, of \$800 a

In Wheeling, W. Va., there is a well over one mile deep. It was drilled in a search for petroleum or natural gas.

An item of importance to women is, that women re two inches taller, on an average, than their

Cars run by storage batteries of electricity have een discontinued in England and horse service has

Two thousand men, women and children, in Cali-fornia, are employed in the cultivation and curing of ampas plumes.

It has been discovered that the salmon, that prince of game fishes, can easily swim at the rate of twenty-five miles an honr.

There will be built on the shores of our great in and lakes this coming winter steel vessels aggregating 47,000 gross tons.

At a funeral in New York, the other day, the whiffle-tree of the hearse broke; the horses ran away and the hearse was upset.

It is estimated that twenty thousand school chil-dren will parade during the Columbian celebration in New York in October.

A suggestion has been made that, in view of the cholers raging abroad, the World's Fair at Chicago be postponed for a year.

One of the cables recently made to propel the surface cars on Broadway, New York, is 61-10 miles long and its weight is 471-2 tons.

More than two hundred panels of native woods will enter into the interior decoration of the Washington building at the World's Fair.

A machine recently erected in a paper mill at Ticonderoga, New York, makes 300 feet of paper a minute, or sixty tons a week.

There has been considerable agitation in favor of eremation as the only safe and proper way of dispos-ing of the bodies of victims of cholera. One of the interesting sights at the World's Fair fill be the first lecomotive that ever ran out of Chicago. It is called "The Old Pioneer."

A. A. Zimmerman, the bicycle champion, re wheeled a mile in a fraction over 2.07, nearly ing the record just made by Nancy Hanks.

It has been arranged to have 40 launches, propelled by electricity, to carry passengers on the lagoons of Jackson Park, Chicago, during the World's Fair.

The Servia, of the Cunard Line, recently collided with the American ship Undaunted. There was a heavy fog at the time; but neither vessel was injured.

The largest steamship in the world has been launched on the Clyde in Scotland. The vessel is to be called the Campania and was built for the Cunard Line.

European railroads have cost on the average 280,-000 dollars per mile for road and equipments, while those in the United States have cost only \$55,330 per

It has been estimated that at the same rate of progression as has been made in the past a horse will be developed by 1905 which will trot a mile in two minutes.

One effect of the cholera scare has been to check the importation of foreign rags, so increasing very much the price of other materials used in the manu-facture of paper.

A new compound of glass and wire has been manu-factured. In glass while it is hot is imbedded a wire network. The compound is very tough and is suita-ble for skylights.

That wonderful mare Nancy Hanks has again low-ered her record. She has made a mile in 2.05 1-4 over a kite shaped track and behind a sulky with pneu-matic-tired wheels.

Ex-Mayor Carter H. Harrison of Chicago was re-ntly seriously injured. His horse fell while he was ut driving. He had a wrenched leg, a bruised shoul-er and a broken arm.

The strikes at Homestead and at Buffalo, which were so serious in aspect as to require the attendance of the National Guard, have been settled and men have returned to work.

Five hundred men have been trained to serve as guards at the Columbian World's Fair in Chicago. They have been organized as a regiment, and have been drilled as soldiers.

The Pennsylvania Railroad company has arranged to exhibit at the World's Fair, a miniature railroad in operation and to show how road beds are constructed and tracks laid.

Large quantities of cotton seed oil are now exported from the United States to Italy. It is said to be used there to dilute the olive oil which is largely imported to this country.

Recently in Phonix, Arizona, some Indians purchased for their own use several parlor chairs and two boxes of stove polish. It is thus made evident that civilization is making progress.

Odd and Curious News Nuggets.

There was an accident on the Fitchburg road re-cently by which ten were killed and fifty injured. It resulted from alleged neglect of duty by a brakeman who neglected to make the proper signals.

In Japan, a recent traveler has declared, there are 192,242 shrines and 108,109 temples. This means that there is a place of worship for every 119 of the gentle inhabitants of the land of the chrysanthemum. In a French settlement on the Bronx River near New York City the women wash the clothes as they do in France-by rubbing them with soap on round stones and rinsing them in the running water of the

In South Dakota recently an ærolite weighing 44 pounds fell after many explosions the noise of which was heard for fifteen miles. The ærolite entered the soil for two feet and for many hours was too hot to be handled.

It has been found that if a growing plant is kept in the same room with a plano the drying and shrink-age of the sounding board of the plano, which is apt to happen in dry and overheated rooms will be pre-vented.

Borax was discovered to exist in the United States in 1857. But not until 1864 was a company formed for its working. Nearly 12,000,000 pounds are now produced annually. It is found only in California and Nevada.

An lowa paper states that the body of the famous Cardiff Giant, which has been buried under a livery stable in Independence, Ia., for twenty years, was lately exhumed by two circus managers and will be exhibited.

The members of the Smith family held their 17th annual reunion in Peapack, N. J. They claim that there are only 2,000 real Smiths in the United States. A "real" Smith is a descendant of John, who landed

The inhabitants of the south shore of Long Island met and threatened to prevent by force the landing of passengers from infected ships on Fire Island, a summer resort just bought by the Governor of the State to serve as a refuge.

Many of the buildings of the World's Fair have een finished and the others are so near completion hat some adequate idea of what the Exposition will ook like from the exterior may be gained on Dedica-ion Day in October.

The United States army is to be furnished with the Krag-Jorgensen rifle. It is a magazine gun and was invented by the two Danes after whom it is named. It will shoot far and fast, and is said to be the best military rifle in the world.

military rifle in the world.

John Howard and his wife, of San Francisco, started on March 10th from Seattle on a tramp to Chicago for a purse of \$5,000. They arrived there August 31st, with sixteen days to spare, their time limit ending September 15th.

The Gatling gun has, by recent improvements, been adapted for use on police patrol wagons. The weight of the new gun is only 74 pounds. It is expected to do more damage, if it is ever necessary to use it, than a regiment of infantry would.

The cholera has continued to rage in Europe and the East. Statistics from Russia are meagre and probably unreliable, but the best estimates place the total number of deaths from the plague up to Sept. 1st at the enormous number of 250,000.

There was great eloquence though no elegance and a powerful sermon though little grammar, in one of the speeches John L. Sullivan is stated to have made after the recent battle in New Orleans. He is reported to have said: "Booze done it!"

ported to have said: "Booze done it!"

In a factory where 2,000 of the bulbs for the electric incandescent light are made it costs 11-2 cent per lamp to merely exhaust the air from them. The carbon, the heating of which to a white heat, gives the incandescent lamp is burned in a vacuum.

A Mr. John L. Fry recently arrived at a hotel in Sioux City, Dak, with a live goose in a box. The next afternoon the goose squawked loudly. On going to Fry's room they found that he had blown out the gas and was unconscious from breathing it.

as and was unconscious from breathing it.

A mysterious case of the poisoning of sixty employees of the Haverhill, Mass., electric road, is explained by the fact that the workmen in clearing out underbrush came in contact with poison ivy. It is stated that many of the cases will prove fatal.

The canvass for the Presidential election in November is still very quiet; but the letter of acceptance of the nomination of Mr. Harrison has been issued. When Mr. Cleveland's is published the active work of the campaign will no doubt be begun in earnest.

There recently arrived on the steamer Obdam a large exhibit for the Chicago Fair. It is a German village. It will cover a space of 17,500 feet. There will be farm buildings, markets, shops, rivers, meeting hall and church, all in the style of the sixteenth century. There was a runaway the other day in New York in which two horses ran fully two miles down Broadway, one of the most crowded thoroughfares in the world, before they were stopped. Then the wagon to which they were attached ran into a car and was overturned.

which they overturned.

Those eminent pugilists Mr. James J. Corbett and Mr. John L. Sullivan have met, and Mr. Sullivan, after being the champion of the world for twelve years was defeated by Mr. Corbett. Upon his return journey northward from New Orleans Corbett was greeted with great enthusiasm.

journey northward from New Orleans Corbett was greeted with great enthusiasm.

The man with a fortune in his skull hails from Chicago. His name is Dominick O'Boyle and he was struck in the back of his head by a bullet, which flattened out exactly as if it had encountered a rock. His sesape from death, and his armor-like skull have been the subject of much comment.

Carl Hagenback of Hamburg, the well-known tamer of wild animals, has signed a contract in which he agrees to bring to the World's Fair two thousand wild animals, and to give daily exhibitions with them, in a circus which will be built at a little distance south of the World's Fair Park.

A woman in the State of Washington has gone in sane through solitude. She and her husband lived in a cabin far from other people. Her husband was absent hunting, or on business for months at a time. She rarely saw other people. Alone with nature she was overcome by terror of imaginary dangers.

In a shipment of fruit which arrived in New York from the West Iddies the other day there was a snake, the bite of which is said to be immediately deadly, some scorpions, some centipedes so poisonous that they leave a mark like a scratch upon any flesh they merely walk over, a tarantula or two, and some butterflies of great beauty in form and color.

The English magazine "Woman" propounds a meastine. It is: "Wonld you rether party a man

ported from the United States to Italy. It is said to be used there to dilute the olive oil which is largely imported to this country.

The first experiments made in expressing oil from cotton seed was made sixty years ago. It is only resently, however, that the oil has become an important article of commerce.

Recently in Phonix, Arizona, some Indians pur-

chased for their own use several parlor chairs and two boxes of stove polish. It is thus made evident that civilization is making progress.

A man recently purchased in Florida 20,000 acres of cheap land for ten thousand dollars. He afterwards advertised town lots for sale at \$1 cach. He received two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

From North, South, East and West.

A remarkable accident recently befell Mr. Peter Smith of Newark, N. J. He was driving a watering cart when his hat fell into the open manhole in the cart. He tried to get it; but lost his balance and fell into the water. His hips were so large that he could not slip through. So he hung suspended, his head in the water, his legs in the air until he was pulled out just in time to save his life.

just in time to save his life.

The finest collection of scarf pins in the world is said to be owned by Rossignol, the king of French detectives. Whenever foreign royalties visiting Paris desire to see the slums of the capitol, Rossignol is placed at their service. The excursion is the more enjoyable by being spiced with a slight apprehension of danger. Their gratitude to the guide generally takes the shape of a scarf pin.

While Forepaugh's circus was traveling in the South recently, a lion tore off the door of his cage. He escaped and there was a great scattering of the spectators. One man jumped into a well, a dozen tried to climb telegraph poles. One woman fainted. The lion snifted at her, turned her over and then walked away. He thought her dead. The lion was finally captured and recaged with much trouble.

Lieut. Peary has returned, after reaching the north-

Lieut. Peary has returned, after reaching the northern coast of Greenland. His purpose was to explore Greenland and that he has accomplished. After spending a winter in camp he made a sledge journey, during the past summer, of 1,300 miles. He reached the next to the highest point of North Latitude. The only other persons who have been farther north being Lockwood and Brainard of the Greeley Expedition.

An Arab uprising has occurred in the Congo Free States. The slave and ivory dealers have captured five stations and killed every white man except two within an area of thousands of square miles, and the work of extending commerce and civilization in Central Africa has been sadly checked. It is not yet known whether the forces of the Congo Free State are adequate to settle the trouble and to punish the offenders.

offenders.

In New York, the disease was kept out of the city for over two weeks after the arrival of the first ship from Hamburg with cholera on board. There have been as many as twenty ships detained there at Quarantine at one time. Proper arrangements have been made there for the seclusion and treatment of the sick; but the well were detained for many days on the vessels on which they arrived to their great discomfort and risk.

discomfort and risk.

The great western air ship is expected to be ready during the present season for its first trip from Chicago to New York. The advertised rate of speed is 75 miles an hour. The voyagers will be conveyed in a sumptuously furnished car made of the wonderful metal aluminum, which, though it has the strength of steel, is very light. The ship has an air chamber 125 feet long, with a diameter of 38 feet, and is to be driven by two engines constructed of alloyed aluminum operating a screw wheel. The cushioned seats are filled with hydrogen gas, to add buoyancy.

An experiment has been made in the destruction of

seats are filled with hydrogen gas, to add buoyancy.

An experiment has been made in the destruction of mosquitoes. Four ounces of kerosene were scattered upon the surface of a small pool which had been found to be a breeding place of the dreaded insect. Within a few days, among many dead gnats, there were found 371 female mosquitoes and many mates. It is estimated that one barrel of kerosene costing \$4.50 or less, would successfully treat 96.000 square feet of water surface. The frost has now ridded much of the country of mosquitoes for this season; but it will be well to remember to make this experiment next summer early.

The electric search light just placed on Mr. West.

next summer early.

The electric search light just placed on Mt. Washington, N. H., can be seen for 150 miles. Signals have been exchanged with the telegraph operator in Portland, Me, a distance of sixty miles. Messages flashed from Mt. Washington were read and telegraphed back by the operator in Portland. The movement of the light is controlled automatically and the necessary electric current is furnished by dynamos some distance from the lamp. A diverging lens produces a broad fan-shaped beam which covers a large territory as it is slowly swept about the vicinity of the mountain. This search light will be in readiness to locate the parties who frequently lose their way in Tuckerman's Ravine or over the Northern Peaks.

How the Cholera Comes.

Crossing the Caspian in May, reaching Baku early in July, and spreading over all Russia and most of Western Europe in the past ninety days, the present cholera epidemic has followed the sinister track of early epidemics. It has found in Russia the conditions which make pestilence deadly. Precisely as revolutions and short crops speeded cholera on its way in 1831-2 and in 1848-9, so now in Russia it has done its deadly work amid a population enfeebled by grip, by famine, by famine typhus, and by endemic typhoid, extending over the entire empire. The only true way to ward off the cholera is to fortify your system against its attacks the same as in "La Grippe," and Oxien played a most important part in preventing and curing that fearful epidemic. We invite all readers to send for free samples of Oxien the wonderful food for the Nerves if they want to feel safe and breath easy before cholera gets a firm hold in this country. A stitch in time saves nine and if you write The Giant Oxic Co., Augusta, Maine, to-day for the free samples much suffering and money may be saved.

PHOTOS. 16 lovely Beauties! 100 valuable Moory-making Ferrets! 27) new

18 SQUARE State of Gold, Red, Blue, Pink or White State of Pin Cushions, Sachet, etc., sent for 10 cents silver.
MILLINER, Box X Augusta, Maine-

A POCKET PANALL

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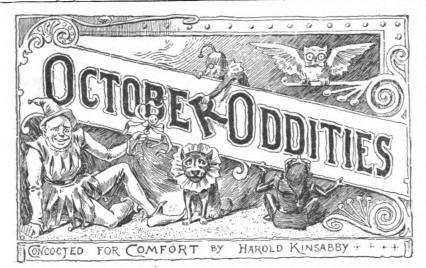
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CTOBER is the month of ripe pumpkins and red-hot politics. And to borrow the tuneful lay of the sweet singer from Michigan, both are "in our midst" at the present writing and—what will the harvest be?

While it is pretty difficult to foreshadow the wice, it is safe to predict that whether the republican goose be cooked or the democratic crow be

served up raw, the pump-kin will continue to everlastingly hold the fort as the prime favorite of the family pie foundry, and that it will likewise continue, as heretofore, to furnish fun for the farmer's fireside by masquerading as the

midnight "Boogie" man.

The manner in which the Juvenile Hayseeds utilize this innocent football of the vegetable kingdom for paralyzing the latest importation from County of Cork is not only a howling success but has never been fittingly portrayed by the poet's pen. Nor has it ever been recorded that shortly after the ad vent of the Melancholy Days in the year 1857, the Junior Kinsabbys, then domiciled at the old homestead in Ohio, held a Council of War which secretly



declared that the period of usefulness of the female mechanic who presided over the Kinsabby kitchen had come to an end, and that her continued presence would prove distasteful to at least one portion of the household.

As a means of conveying the hint to "vamoose the ranch," a pumpkin was fitted up in the most hideous style of the prehistoric art, and shortly before mid-night this was introduced to the timid and unsuspecting Bridget under the nom de plame of The Holy Terror from Haunted Hollow and—the picture tells

A MINISTER up in the mountains of Vermont, whose horse is subject to periodical fits of dizziness, had his confidence in human nature shaken by this advice from one of his flock: "Take the horse to town some day when he isn't dizzy and sell him to a stranger."



IT isn't everybody that can get even with a mean man. There is a the State of Maine, however, a little barefoot lad who did the trick in exceedingly great shape he other day

Last June a rich fish dealer from 'ortland bought a summer home among the romantic hills of

Skowhegan, and he had not been settled there a week before Tommy Wilson, who lives on the adjoining farm, found that the son of his new neighbor was mean enough to steal the silver door-plate off the golden gates of Heaven, if he got the chance. It seems that Tommy's little sister Tommy's little sister was the proud possessor of a pair of snow-white pigeons, which he had bought

the last fair, paying for her for a birthday present at ey he had earned picking berries them out of mon-The little miss valued and loved them as only a counary child can, and when one day the pretty pair paid

a flying visit to the neighboring barn-yard and were shot down in cold blood by the junior fishmonger, our friend Tommy organized himself into a committee of one for the purpose of making the herring huckster pay the highest price on record for dead

Whether he lay awake nights to perfect his plan of reciprocity is not known, but it is a matter of history that within the short period of two weeks he landed the Portland pickerel pedler, as he termed him, in the soup in a manner that fills the properly balanced

human heart with unutterable joy.

Some boys would no doubt have waylaid the Port land chap and mauled him, but that wasn't in accordance with Tommy's idea of squaring things up. He never even mentioned the matter to the villain and acted just as though he didn't mind a little thing like that. But all this time he was preparing a dose of misery for the murderer of his sister's pets, and when he had his plans all ready his neighbor heard something drop, as the saying goes.

One day last week he paid him a visit, with his cousin, on his way home from a squirrel hunt, and after talking about the weather and the probability of Grover Cleveland being elected to stay at home, he incidentally admired a flock of fine fowls which roamed about the yard, and jokingly asked how much the owner would take for a shot at them. When the boy replied that all the money in Skowhe-gan wouldn't induce his father to part with those prize chickens and that some of them were worth over fifty dollars apiece, Tommy suddenly excused himself, saying he would run over to see if his mother didn't want him. No sooner had he gone than the cousin changed the subject to guns, and taking up Tommy's old wild-goose musket said it would be a good job to draw out his shot and then when he came back bet him that he couldn't hit a barn door. The fish fiend took the bait like a shark, promptly adjusted the wormer to the ramrod and withdrew the shot. Pretty soon Tommy came back and remarked that as he couldn't get a shot at prize chickens he would have to go home and do his chores.
"What'll you give if I let you have a shot at them,"

said the Smart Aleck from Portland.

'Well, chickens aint worth much now, but if you'll call them all together so's to give me and my muske call them all together so sto give hie and my masket a fair show, I'll give you fifty cents and take what I kill at twenty yards."

"It's a ge," said the over-confident pigeon pepperer, and



bunched and then blazed away. When the smoke had cleared, seventeen game fowls lay dead upon the grass, for Tommy had taken good care to put the charges of shot into his gun before making his appearance upon the scene of action.

The roar of the blunderbuss brought the old man on the ground and the way he danced up and down, pawed the air and made sultry remarks, was a truly awe-inspiring spectacle. Meanwhile Tommy and his companion gathered up their game fowls and with the remark, "Now, mister, I'm square with your boy for killing my sister's pet pigeons," departed for

It verily doth appear that, though the country boy may be slow, he gets there all the same

On the afternoon of last "Labor Day" there occurred within the classic precincts of Cambridge, Mass., a cholera scare which caused a painful scattering of panic-stricken inhabitants and came mighty near resulting fatally in at least one instance.

A brief recital of the case should prove a warning those who are forever monkeying with the flowing bowl and should at the same time induce the timid citizens who so hastily fled from the scene of peril to return to the bosom of their families. The unvarnished facts of the case are these: Mr. Oliver Wendell Bromfield is one of the foremost hide and leather purveyors of Boston and he lives in an elegant man sion adjoining the Harvard College buildings. Among other high honors which have fallen to his lot is that of being father to two remarkable specimens of Young America," aged respectively seven and ten.

Returning from the city on the afternoon of the holiday mentioned, he was surpr sed to find a home-made lemonade stand in full thast in front of his house, and his ears were saluted by the familiar cry,

'Lemonade, sir, ice cool lemonade; only five cents a glass." With astonishment and pleasure he recognized his oldest son, who with true Yankee thrift was relieving the passers-by of their spare cash and ladling out the cooling decoction from a wooden bucket, in which the ice rattled refreshingly.

He was about to invest when he became aware of a rival establishment located on the other side of the gateway and which had evidently gone into the cutrate business. He there discovered his youngest boy, behind another booth, filling the air with "Only two cents a glass!" No one, probably, will ever know whether it was business instincts or a desire to encourage the youngest child that made Mr. Bromfield step over to the second booth and drain a glass. Smacking his lips and putting down a couple of coppers, he was about to enter his residence when his curiosity led him to inquire how it was that the proprietor could afford to sell his lemonade so much cheaper than his rival. It was a fatal question. And the answer simply paralyzed him.
"Well, you see, I'm selling at a reduced price, 'cause

the puppy fell in mine."

Mr. Bromgeld clutched wildly at the region of his vest pockets, and staggered into the house. Unfortu-



whispered from ear to ear. The street was jammed when Mr. Bromfield himself appeared upon the scene, accompanied by a severe pain in his midst. The effect was astonishing. Never since the war have so many men run wildly away. In all probability some are still laying low.

The moral of the sad occurrence is this: Shun the flowing bowl; but if you must drink, don't drink twocent lemonade.

THE young Chicago merchant who married Miss Jerusha Bullit, of Boston, presents the only case on record where a man lived with a bullet in his heart.

NUTSHELL TRUTHS.

'Tis better to sew shirts than to sow strife. There is no more dishonor in being knocked down by a bully than in being kicked by a jackas :

Most people want to get possession of secrets just as spendthrifts want to get money-for circulation.

Some folks require presents of mind-others, presence of mind, and others still-a piece of

We should not think too much of ourselves. and yet we should always be careful not to forget ourselves.

A brave man bears his certificate of courage in his eye and in his whole deportment, but the poltroon carries it in his pocket.

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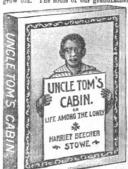
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